

CHUCK SCHADEN'S

NOSTALGIA NEWSLETTER

AND
RADIO
GUIDE

© JUNE-JULY, 1982



J. CARROL NAISH, in his role as Luigi Basco, the "little immigrant" from Italy, was a listener favorite for a number of years at the end of radio's heyday. *LIFE WITH LUIGI* began on CBS in the fall of 1948 and continued thru the spring of 1953. A hit on radio, the show did not make an easy transition to television, even though Naish and the main characters continued in their roles. The TV series ran for just 13 weeks in the fall of 1952.

The Jordans:

"MOLLY and ME"

*Life at Their Encino
Home is as Jolly as at "79 Wistful Vista"*

RADIO LIFE

MARCH 31, 1946

Their private life is normal and wholesome, wholly devoid of any Hollywood artificiality.

Away from the microphone, their life centers in their Encino home. There is a housekeeper, but Marian still likes to do many of the household tasks herself and on the wo-

man's day off, she delights in doing the family cooking. In the same manner, although they have a hired man, Jim enjoys performing the variety of odd jobs around the house and yard. A handy man with his hands Mr. Jordan has built the attractive lawn furniture that is placed invitingly in the spacious grounds surrounding their two-story California Monterey type house.

Recently, his labors have turned toward the care of the shrubs in his nursery and the building of some hundred redwood flats in which to place the new-born plants. He is also working on a play-pen for little Diane, the comparative newcomer who occupies the choicest spot in the Jordans' hearts.

In real life, Marian and Jim have two children, Kathryn and Jim, Jr. The latter has lately been appearing on the "McGees" show doing a variety of character roles. He is a contract player at RKO film studios. His wife, Carmela Bergstrom, is a Paramount film player.

Daughter Kathryn is married to Adrian Goodman, a lieutenant in the medical corps of the Navy. He is now stationed ashore, but was on duty in the Pacific up until the birth of their daughter, the aforementioned little Diane, and arrived back in the States on the very day of her birth, May 18th, which also happens



ALWAYS TOGETHER are the Jordans, known to ether-dialers as "Fibber McGee and Molly". They are seldom seen apart—save during rehearsal "breaks", when "Molly" likes to lunch at the Brown Derby while "Fibber" favors George's, the small sandwich stand across from NBC.

to be the Goodmans' wedding anniversary.

Diane, of course, has become the Jordans' pride and joy. Mrs. Jordan greatly enjoys the times when she has complete care of her. The baby, dark-haired, blue-eyed, good-natured, looks a good deal like both her mother and Marian.

Enjoy Ranch

The Jordans' weekly schedule has them occupied with their airshow almost steadily from Saturday until Tuesday. On Wednesday, they frequently hie themselves to their ranch near Bakersfield. "I notice

Jim, Jr. likes to come up there, too," grinned "Molly." "I think it's the fresh eggs and BUTTER that gets him!"

It is these pleasant family get-togethers which both Marian and Jim enjoy the most—happy times when the entire family, and often several of their close friends gather at the Jordan home, sit around the piano while Marian plays and everybody joins in an old-fashioned song-fest.

"Just being together," smiled "Molly" warmly, with an affectionate glance at "McGee." "That's what's fun!"

Seldom Recognized

It's interesting to note that the fans and autograph-seekers who throng outside the studio gates seldom recognize Marian and Jim as the famous "Fibber and Molly." Most of their public know the Jordans only as the lovable, laughable residents of "79 Wistful Vista."

Actually, too, the Jordans are not very different from the McGees.

BOOK EIGHT

CHAPTER FOUR

JUNE—JULY, 1982

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TALMAN HOME NORTH WEST

COMING
ATTRACTIONS

If you have a fondness for the "good old days," then you're invited to enjoy some nostalgic programs at the Talman Home North West Community Center, 4901 W. Irving Park Road, Chicago. There's plenty of free parking in the large lot on Dakin Street at the rear of the Talman Home/ NWF office or CTA transportation will take you 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 turn west to the entrance of the Center.

SATURDAY, JUNE 5th — 8 P.M.

"ALL THIS AND 3-D, TOO!!"

SPECIAL PROGRAM

DOG GONE MIX-UP (1938) Harry Langdon sound comedy.

THE HECKLER (1940) Charley Chase 2-reeler.

THE PEST FROM THE WEST (1939) Buster Keaton.

YOU DEAR BOY (1943) Vera Vague (from the Bob Hope show!).

SPOOKS (1953) The Three Stooges in 3-D! Larry, Shemp and Moe cavort in 3 dimensions.

PARDON MY BACKFIRE (1953) The Three Stooges, again, in 3-D! The zanies are comin' at ya again. (Special 3-D glasses will be provided.)

PLUS! EXTRA ADDED ATTRACTION! "THE ADVENTURES OF BATMAN AND ROBIN" starring Robert Lowery, John Duncan, Jane Adams, Lyle Talbot. Chapter 1 — Batman Takes Over.

(SPECIAL PROGRAM: ALL SEATS \$2.00 — Advance tickets will be available and are recommended.)

SATURDAY, JUNE 12th — 8 P.M.

MY SISTER EILEEN (1942) Rosalind Russell, Brian Aherne, Janet Blair, George Tobias, Allyn Joslyn, Elizabeth Patterson, June Havoc. Two girls from Ohio try to survive in Greenwich Village. The original! **EXTRA: BATMAN AND ROBIN, Chapter 2 — Tunnel of Terror.** (\$1.25)

SATURDAY, JUNE 19th — 8 P.M.

MEET BOSTON BLACKIE (1941) Chester Morris, Rochelle Hudson, Richard Lane, Constance Worth. The first in the series of popular films about the former thief now on the right side of the law, but preferring to work for himself than for the police. Mystery and fun. **EXTRA: BATMAN AND ROBIN, Chapter 3 — Robin's Wild Ride.** (\$1.25)

SATURDAY, JUNE 26th — 8 P.M.

AFFAIR IN TRINIDAD (1952) Rita Hayworth, Glenn Ford, Alexander Scourby, Juanita Moore. Rita is at her best most enticing as a cafe singer with Glenn as her boyfriend seeking her husband's murder. **EXTRA: BATMAN AND ROBIN, Chapter 4 — Batman is Trapped.** (\$1.25)

SATURDAY, JULY 3rd — 8 P.M.

MEET NERO WOLF (1936) Edward Arnold, Lionel Stander, Rita Hayworth. Arnold stars as the famous detective in the first of the popular series. **EXTRA: BATMAN AND ROBIN, Chapter 5 — Robin Rescues Batman.** (\$1.25)

SATURDAY, JULY 10th — 8 P.M.

HAROLD LLOYD SPECIAL!

HOT WATER (1924) Comedy highlights from Lloyd's classic silent film include his hair-raising car ride with his in-laws and the funny "cranky-turkey-on-a-crowded streetcar" scene which is still as hilarious as it is mind-boggling. **PLUS... SAFETY LAST (1923)** Harold Lloyd's full-length feature is the story of his frenetic attempt to earn money to marry the girl he loves. There's nothing he isn't willing to try, and inevitably he scales a twelve-story building and swings from a giant clock in this memorable and suspenseful stunt. Both silent films are presented with a musical score. **EXTRA: BATMAN AND ROBIN, Chapter 6 — Target Batman.** (\$1.25)

SATURDAY, JULY 17th — 8 P.M.

(NOTE PROGRAM CHANGE)

LADIES OF THE CHORUS (1949) Marilyn Monroe, Adele Jergens, Rand Brooks, Nana Bryant. Musical comedy about burlesque chorines and their offstage romances. Marilyn's mother tries to keep her virtuous! **EXTRA: BATMAN AND ROBIN, Chapter 7 — Fatal Blast.** (\$1.25)

WE GET LETTERS

CHICAGO — My wife and I are pretty faithful listeners to your program and enjoy it enormously. It is difficult to listen to "Suspense" and do academic work at the same time. I look forward to hearing the old commercials; I can clearly visualize that colorful, striped Ipana toothpaste tube. My wife is partial to "Captain Jack's (?) Flying Squadron" from which she once won a crate of balsa wood toy airplanes. But we have been with you long enough now to view the prospect of yet another "Cinnamon Bear" rerun as a mixed blessing, at best.

Your appearance on Channel 32 (on P.M. Magazine) lent a touch of contemporary reality to you, although my wife persists in saying that that guy did not look like you. May you and Those Were The Days live long enough to play old "Prairie Home Companion" shows. — **RALPH W. NICHOLAS, Professor and Chairman, Department of Anthropology, University of Chicago.**

(ED. NOTE — The guy you saw on P.M. Magazine was only a reasonable facsimile.)



SATURDAY, JULY 24th — 8 P.M.

WHEN YOU'RE IN LOVE (1937) Grace Moore, Cary Grant, Aline MacMahon, Thomas Mitchell. An opera star "hires" a husband. Wonderful music by the wonderful Miss Moore, who also sings "Minnie the Moocher!" **EXTRA: BATMAN AND ROBIN, Chapter 8 — Robin Meets Wizard.** (\$1.25)

SATURDAY, JULY 31st — 8 P.M.

LONE WOLF SPY HUNT (1939) Warren William, Ida Lupino, Rita Hayworth, Virginia Weidler, Ralph Morgan. Michael Lanyard, the Lone Wolf, a jewel thief who would always sacrifice his own ambitions to help a lady in distress, doesn't disappoint us in this mystery-comedy. **EXTRA: BATMAN AND ROBIN, Chapter 9 — Wizard Strikes Back.** (\$1.25)

VALPARAISO, INDIANA — About a month ago I discovered your program and since then I have not missed a single broadcast. I found your remarks about coal very interesting. About five years ago I discovered exactly what you stumbled across as people were calling in to tell you about that subject. I am heating a relatively large house on five tons a year. However, I must tell you that there is a bad side to it also — namely the dust and ash.

By now you must be wondering how old I am since I am still burning coal. I am 30 years old and an electrical engineer. I am finding out that there was a lot lost in years past besides coal heat. It was the great humor of really great comedians like Jack Benny and there are few programs on television today that can compare to the Shadow, played by Orson Welles.

I was not an instant convert to any of this, but I think that if you can get any young person to just listen to a few hours of your programming, they will become "hooked" also. I can tell you this since I have played some of your shows (from cassette) to my friends and now they are listening to your program.

All of this has peaked my curiosity about how times were during the 30s and 40s and I am still being surprised by the things I find out. Did you know that you could ride a train from Chicago to New York in almost the same amount of time it takes to fly, considering the time it takes to get to O'Hare, park, etc? The trains prided themselves in being right on time and ran through weather conditions that airlines are afraid to think about. The Broadway Limited was so luxurious that it had Irish Linen tablecloths in the diners, not to mention china table plates, etc.

I am writing all of this not because I am a railroad buff, but only to share with you and your listeners a conclusion I am reluctantly coming to. Perhaps what we now consider progress and modern conveniences is not so great at all. We might have lost one heck of a lot in our great rush into modernization — if you get my drift. — **GEORGE MABRIA.**

(ED. NOTE — We get your drift and thank you very much for all your comments. Those WERE the days, weren't they?)

*** CLARENDON HILLS —** I am 60 years old. I grew up with good radio. I enjoy your newsletter very much!! — **JAMES E. MELKA**

HE SCORES AGAIN

Radio Magazine, May, 1956



BEHIND every event, there is the man. Behind every man, there is drama. No one knows this better than sportscaster Bill Stern. When the crowd at the ball park roars for the man who broke the tie, or boos him ten minutes later for dropping the ball, it's Bill who's always in there rooting for the man himself. The moments of a home-run or touchdown are fleeting. Bill keeps his eye on the stuff that makes sportsmen . . . there's the clue to this man.

It took heart and courage for Bill to begin a radio career again, after having beaten death itself. Tragedy struck him in the fall of 1935. He was driving back to New York after broadcasting the grid games of Centenary College in Shreveport, Louisiana, when an automobile accident necessitated amputation of a leg. This was a crushing blow for a man who had been so active—but it proved only to have nourished Bill's gift for human interest.

Most Wednesday nights will find Bill at one of the veterans' hospitals with a troupe of show-people or sports figures, entertaining these men—many of them "forgotten men." Once, on a stifling hot summer's day, the air conditioners in the rooms of a New York hospital weren't plugged in and the men were literally suffocating. It was Bill, himself, who went around to every room in the hospital plugging the air conditioners into their outlets. His friends at the hospital won't soon forget him.

Born in Rochester, New York, Bill attended Hackley Prep, but not for long. It seems he sneaked off campus one day to catch a certain Ruby Stevens who was appearing in a local show. This was a decided infringement of the rules, but Bill was willing to risk it. He took the consequences—but to

tell the truth—there were no regrets. Bill had made a lifelong friend, who is known today as Barbara Stanwyck.

At Penn Military College, Bill learned the art of self-discipline and played football, basketball and polo. He was also the leader of the college orchestra and played a mean saxophone. "That combo, wow!" Bill laughs. They played countless "demand performances," he recalls, but "the demand was our own—no one else's!" So they took to the high seas in 1929. "We decided to make a summer trip to Europe. First night out, we played for the first class passengers, second night for the second class travelers and the third night for ourselves."

In 1930, Bill decided to try his hand in Hollywood. And that's exactly what he did—digging postholes at five dollars a week, on the RKO lot. These labors lasted for three days. But Bill made a friend—Sam Rothafel—the great Roxy. When Bill headed back to New York, he took a job as usher in Rothafel's Roxy Theater. Bill's practical jokes amused the great showman and, in time, Bill became stage manager.

But the radio bug bit Bill in early 1934. "I started pestering John Royal, a radio exec at NBC, for a sportscasting job. He got so sick and tired of me bothering him that he told the great Graham McNamee to take this fresh kid to the Navy—William and Mary football game and let him do a two-minute bit that will end his career." Knowing Bill, it is no surprise that these two men were later to become his most loyal boosters. McNamee, says Bill, saw to it that he got every break. His work with him won Bill a steady job on NBC. The new sportscaster, anxious for success, had his friends wire Royal that they thought "Stern was the best ever." Royal promptly fired him.

The next year, when the tragic automobile accident occurred, it was John Royal who came to visit Bill, to give him encouragement and offer him another announcing job. The rest is history, marking the rise of a seven-time gold medal winner. Bill Stern is no armchair sportsman. He takes his Thunderbird "anyplace there's a race." Another familiar sight is Bill racing about on his motorcycle—nor is he a stranger on the golf links.

Bill Stern's association with sports figures has given him an intimate appreciation and admiration of their qualities. He says of golfers, "They're the finest type of people—ladies and gentlemen. Anyone associated with the sport develops a sense of refinement." As for tennis enthusiasts, he says, "They've got breeding. The very demands of the game call for politeness and fine behavior." Football players? "They're a good lot. Those kids went to war. They have confidence and manliness." And baseball figures? "They haven't had the advantages to gain suaveness. But you'll never meet a greater bunch of regular guys." Of the men in the ring, Bill says, "The greatest of them—the Dempseys, the Tunneys, the Rosses, the Joe Louises, were hungry fighters. They were fighting for a cause . . . great champs and greater men."

Then Bill speaks of Joe Louis, "the finest man in sports I've ever known. I've seen him emerge as a poor, yes, illiterate boy, into a man of incomparable distinction. Joe never has knocked a man. He is a complete gentleman—a gentleman by instinct." It takes a gentleman like Bill Stern to recognize what's behind a man—it's this very ability that makes him a winner.

THOSE WERE THE DAYS • WNIB- FM 97.1

SATURDAY AFTERNOONS • 1:00 UNTIL 5:00



HOW TO READ THE RADIO

GUIDE: The name of the vintage radio show appears in **bold face type** followed by the original broadcast date (in parenthesis). Next you'll find, as appropriate, the title of the story, names of stars and other cast members, and a line about the content of the show. If the show was sponsored, the name of the original sponsor appears next. If the show was unsponsored, it was known as a Sustaining program; if the show was presented on a station-by-station basis across the country, it was known as a Syndicated program. This information is followed by the network source of the broadcast: NBC (National Broadcasting Company), CBS (Columbia Broadcasting System), ABC (American Broadcasting Company), MBS (Mutual Broadcasting System), AFRS (Armed Forces Radio Service). Finally, for your convenience we provide timing information on each vintage show. (9:45; 11:20; 8:50) means that we will present the show in three segments: 9 minutes and 45 seconds; 11 minutes and 20 seconds; 8 minutes and 50 seconds. If you add the times of these segments together, you'll have the total length of the show (29:55 for our example).

NOTE: The vintage radio shows listed appear in the order we expect to present them on our Those Were The Days program. Occasionally, we may pre-empt a show to provide time to present other material of special interest, such as a tribute to a personality who passed away during the preceding week. In such an event, the pre-empted program will be rescheduled to a later broadcast. If you have any questions about our programming or if you simply want to share some information or a memory, please call anytime during our Saturday broadcast at our studio number, 965-7763. And, thanks for listening.

SATURDAY, JUNE 5th MOVIE SERIES ON RADIO

THE HARDY FAMILY (1950) Mickey Rooney, Lewis Stone and Fay Holden recreate their screen roles in this radio edition of the popular M-G-M movie series. Andy's friend is getting married and the reception is going to be held at the Hardy house. Cast includes Dick Crenna and Charles Smith. Syndicated. (13:00; 11:35)

THE THIN MAN (10-10-43) Les Damon and Claudia Morgan star as Nick and Nora Charles in the radio version of Dashiell Hammett's characters who were popularized on the screen in the series for M-G-M. Ordering flowers for his wedding anniversary, Nick is sent a funeral wreath instead. Parker Fennelly co-stars. Post Toasties, CBS. (10:35; 20:15)

ADVENTURES OF MAISIE (1949) Ann Sothern stars as wise-cracking, good-hearted Maisie Revere in this radio adaptation of the popular M-G-M series. Collecting clothing for the poor, Maisie meets an out-of-work actor friend and unwittingly helps a bank robbery. Cast includes Peter Leeds, Bea Benaderet, Frank Nelson, Sidney Miller, Pat McGeehan, Joan Banks. Syndicated. (15:25; 11:35)

BOSTON BLACKIE (1945) Richard Kollmar stars as Blackie, "enemy to those who make him an enemy, friend to those who have no friends" in this radio edition of the popular Columbia Pictures' film series. Blackie investigates a poor people's mission whose "brothers" have a habit of throwing themselves in front of moving automobiles. Maurice Tarplin is Inspector Faraday and Lesley Woods is Mary. Syndicated. (12:05; 13:00)

BLONDIE (2-25-45) Penny Singleton and Arthur Lake appear as Blondie and Dagwood Bumstead in the radio show based upon Chic Young's popular comic strip and Columbia Pictures' film series. Blondie has become a poetry fan and invites a poet to speak at the women's club. Dagwood's afraid the poet has fallen in love with him! Hanley Stafford is J.C. Dithers. AFRS Rebroadcast. (10:55; 11:00)

STORY OF DR. KILDARE (4-26-50) Lew Ayers and Lionel Barrymore star as Dr. Kildare and Dr. Gillespie in a radio extension of the popular M-G-M film series. The doctors seek to help a missing patient. Syndicated. (13:53; 11:26)

OUR SPECIAL GUEST will be film historian **ROBERT KOLOSOSKI** who will talk about the making and the success of the series' pictures during Hollywood's golden age.

SATURDAY, JUNE 12th LIFE BEGINS WITH RADIO

LIFE WITH LUIGI (3-25-52) J. Carroll Naish stars as Luigi Basco with Alan Reed as Pasquale, Hans Conreid as Schultz, Jody Gilbert as Rosa, and Mary Shipp as Miss Spaulding. Luigi's night school class is assigned to write an essay. Wrigley's Gum, CBS. (13:17; 15:22)

THIS IS YOUR LIFE (1950) Ralph Edwards presents the life of Charlie McCarthy! Edgar Bergen and other guests from Charlie's past life appear on this first of two consecutive programs. Phillip Morris Cigarettes, NBC. (13:35; 13:00)

A LIFE IN YOUR HANDS (7-9-52) Carlton Kaddell stars as Jonathan Kegg, a wealthy retired lawyer who devotes his time to justice as a friend of the court. Kegg cross-examines witnesses to a murder. Announcer is Myron Wallace. Sustaining, NBC. (14:55; 10:20)

LIFE OF RILEY (9-24-44) William Bendix is Riley, Paula Winslowe as Peg. Peg's old flame calls and Riley has problems. American Meat Institute, NBC-Blue. (16:59; 12:15)

THIS IS YOUR LIFE (1950) The second of two consecutive broadcasts highlighting the life of Charlie McCarthy. Ralph Edwards parades lots of Edgar Bergen's friends before the microphones in this look at the life of radio's most famous "wooden head." Phillip Morris Cigarettes, NBC. (6:30; 20:10)

YOU BET YOUR LIFE (1947) Groucho Marx stars in the audition show for the popular long-running radio series. Announcer is Jack Slattery. Recorded at CBS. (11:45; 17:55)

SATURDAY, JUNE 19th

UNCLE NED'S SQUADRON (5-31-52) Ned Locke offers exciting activities about flying and aircraft for the "cadets" in the studio and at home. Comet Models, WMAQ/NBC. (14:17; 15:04)

TEXACO STAR THEATRE (6-16-46) James Melton and Ed Wynn star in an unusual musical-variety show. Melton sings "I Hear Music" and "Donkey Serenade." Wynn, the Perfect Fool, offers a comic synopsis of the opera "Wedding of the Bartered Bride." Texaco Fire Chief Gasoline, CBS. (13:35; 15:03)

BURNS AND ALLEN SHOW (6-18-45) Gracie decides that George needs a new image and decides to take him out to purchase a new suit of clothes. Harry Von Zell, John Brown, Mel

Blanc, Felix Mills and the Orchestra. Swan Soap, CBS. (7:05; 11:45; 5:10)

BROWNSTONE THEATRE (1945) "Daddy Longlegs" starring Gertrude Warner and Jackson Beck. An eighteen-year-old girl is given a chance to go to college by an older man. AFRS Rebroadcast as "Globe Theatre." (12:04; 18:14)

CHASE AND SANBORN HOUR (6-20-37) Excerpt of broadcast featuring W.C. Fields, Charlie McCarthy and Don Ameche in conversation on and about Father's Day. Fields tells stories about his father. NBC-Red. (12:25)

CAVALCADE OF AMERICA (3-26-45) "Grandpa and the Statue" starring Charles Laughton. An inspirational, patriotic drama of an old man who dislikes the Statue of Liberty, fearing it will fall into the ocean. His grandson persuades him to take the boat trip out to the monument. DuPont, NBC. (15:05; 14:40)

SATURDAY, JUNE 26th

SHELL CHATEAU (8-31-35) Al Jolson stars in a big-time mid-30s variety hour with guests Boris Karloff and George Jessel. Victor Young and his orchestra. Georgie calls his "Mamma" and Boris acts in a scene from "Green Goddess." Shell Gasoline, NBC. (12:00; 15:50; 26:15)

COMMAND PERFORMANCE (2-15-45) "Dick Tracy in B Flat" is a fun-filled original musical comedy starring Bing Crosby as Dick Tracy; Dinah Shore as Tess Trueheart; Harry Von Zell as Old Judge Hooper; Jerry Colonna as the Police Chief; Bob Hope as Flattop; Frank Morgan as Vitamin Flintheart; Jimmy Durante as The Mole; Judy Garland as Snowflake; the Andrews Sisters as the Summer Sisters; Frank Sinatra as Shakey; Cass Daley as Gravel Gertie. AFRS. (11:05; 9:10; 7:35; 8:50; 9:50; 8:35)

LUX RADIO THEATRE (9-4-44) "Maytime" starring Jeanette MacDonald and Nelson Eddy recreating their performances from the 1937 movie. An opera star and a penniless singer fall in love. Host is Cecil B. DeMille. Lux Soap, CBS. (19:01; 18:33; 20:33)

SATURDAY, JULY 3rd

BURNS AND ALLEN SHOW (10-31-46) George and Gracie welcome guest Jack Carson on Halloween. George and Jack enter an acting contest. Mel Blanc is the happy postman. Maxwell House Coffee, NBC. (7:01; 5:33; 16:48)

THE WHISTLER (9-15-48) "Uncle Ben's Widow" starring Jeff Chandler. A woman is

CONTINUED ON PAGE 12

Movies

Chicago Tribune
April 23, 1982

Lights! Camera! The action's in film memorabilia

By Joanne Abrams

EVERYBODY KNOWS where to go to see movies in Chicago, but what if you like to read about films as well as watch them? What if you are interested in collecting movie posters and stills?

The following stores are the best places in Chicago to buy film-related books, photos and posters. You don't have to be movie crazy to haunt the following stores, although a touch of film madness wouldn't hurt.

Metro Goldwyn Memories: 5941 W. Irving Park Rd., 736-4133, open noon to 5 p.m. Monday and Thursday, Friday, Saturday; noon to 4 p.m. Sunday; closed Tuesday and Wednesday. You'll think you've died and gone to movie heaven when you pass through the door of this place. It's fun and the closest thing to a real cinema bookstore in Chicago. Owned by Dave Denwood and Chuck Schaden [who have a radio nostalgia program on WNIB (FM 97.1) on Saturday afternoons], this store is devoted to movie and radio nostalgia: books, magazines, movie posters, photos. The place is bright and slick. The clutter of posters and stills covering its walls will bedazzle your eyes. Don't expect to find treatises on Antonioni here; the slant is pure Hollywood. Movie stills are reasonably priced at \$1.25. Serious collectors should ask to see the rest of their photos and original posters. Cheap chic alert: MGM sells glossy reprints of old movie posters. They cost \$3 and make great gift items. You'll find colorful prints of the original posters used to promote such classics as "Casablanca," "East of Eden," "Anna Christie" and many more. The only thing this store lacks is a popcorn machine.

WE'RE OPEN
SUNDAY Noon to 4 PM
MON, THURS, FRI
Noon to 5 PM
SATURDAY 11 AM to 7:30 PM



5941 W. Irving Park Road, Chicago
JUST EAST OF AUSTIN — PHONE 736-4133

Ya Wanna Trade Comics?

BY DAN MC GUIRE

What can you do on a rainy summer afternoon when you're played out with cards, checkers, Monopoly and Sorry? We pondered together, Jim, Pete, Ralph, Tom, Margie, Wayne, Shirley, Chuck and me. We'd been nearly three hours on Wayne's porch — the only one big enough to hold all of us without someone having to sit on the steps and get soaked.

The answer came from next door, as twins Wilbert and Willard dashed across the gangway and up the steps, comic books hugged under all four arms. "Anybody wanna trade comics?" Their duet inquiry was answered by a chorus of affirmatives.

Racing home through the rain, we returned shortly with armloads of our own comics. Staking out trading areas on the porch, we began an excited round robin of negotiations. Trading was a one-on-one operation, and each trader wanted to see what everyone else had to offer. So an hour elapsed before trading slackened off and we began skimming through our new acquisitions. Some comics had changed hands three or four times, unread by traders who briefly possessed them but "traded up" for something more appealing.

Eventually, parents called us home for supper. We dispersed, happily anticipating days of comic book read-a-thons. Our group trade was a novelty. Like the tango, it took only two to trade, although threesomes were not unusual. Most trading was done spur-of-the-moment when other activities temporarily fizzled. The rules were simple. You only traded a "like new" comic for one in comparable condition. Torn or badly worn comics of a highly regarded strip might be worth a low valued strip in A-1 condition. Coverless comics had little appeal and were infrequently traded, even for other naked issues. Occasionally, two coverless editions of very popular comics might bring one less popular comic in reasonable condition.

The girls were at a slight disadvantage in trading. They usually bought fewer comics than us boys, and their tastes ran to Wonder Woman, Little Lulu, Sheena of the Jungle and the less violent animal characters. These had limited trade value among us boys, although we eventually came to appreciate Sheena and the wonder lady somewhat. (A youthful chauvinist, I found Sheena quite exciting when tied to a stake as the natives prepared to sacrifice her to their gorilla mascot.)

We all had our favorites. Batman, Robin and Tarzan were mine in the adventure category. Their heroic exploits were the more

thrilling to me because they were mortal, with no super powers. Not like that toothy Captain Marvel that Chuck idolized. With his shouts of "Shazam!" and the bolts of lightning, Billy Batson was always changing into the flashy superhero — if he wasn't so dumb that he let the baddies slug him or gag him when he'd only said, "Shaz—!"

Having favorites complicated the system a bit. Your favorites were not my favorites, and each of us placed an otherwise excessive value on his. As a result, many favorites were traded only after they became badly shopworn.

Varying proportions of all our youthful incomes were spent on comics, and only the most tattered were ever discarded. Most of us probably accumulated 200, 300 or more, but no prestige was attached to either the quantity or quality of our collections. Saving comics was just something kids did.

Ralph didn't understand this, and tried to impress us with tales of 5-foot-high stacks of comics in his attic. Yet he always brought out a familiar pile of about 100 to trade. He explained that his mother would only permit him one trip to the attic because it was so dusty. However many comics Ralph's collection comprised, it included an inordinate number of Bible Story and Classics Illustrated comics, which tended to go begging.

Long after I'd outgrown comic books per se, I treasured an unbroken 5-year set of Walt Disney and the Bug Bunny/Porky Pig (Looney Tunes?) comics, supplemented by comic book versions of Snow White and other Disney films. When I married, I left this precious remnant stored in the family basement. During an over-enthusiastic cleaning binge, my mother mistook it for junk — junk?! — and gave it to a Boy Scout paper drive. I eventually forgave her, but none of my daughters is named after her.

Every over-30 listener to Those Were The Days has probably some time mused: "If I had all the comics that passed through my hands as a kid, I could sell them for a small fortune today." But if you had them, could you part with them now? Think of the wealth of memories they hold of buying, reading, re-reading, trading and trading again!

Today, my "collection" consists of a few dozen carefully preserved (i.e., unread) Classics Illustrated reprints from the publisher's last days. Just sorting through them transports me back to those carefree days of youth, when one of the year-round boredom remedies was trading comics with pals. I think I'll go admire them some more — as soon as I can get to my safe deposit box.

THOSE WERE THE DAYS • WNIB- FM 97.1

SATURDAY AFTERNOONS • 1:00 UNTIL 5:00

told that her husband's "accidental" death is really murder. Signal Oil Co., CBS. (10:24; 17:46)

WILL OSBORNE AND HIS ORCHESTRA (9-13-48) Remote broadcast from "the beautiful Marine Dining Room of the world famous Edgewater Beach Hotel in Chicago." First show in a Monday night series. Vocals by Will Osborne and Warren Gale. Tunes include "It Only Happens With You," "That Old Feeling," "Begin the Beguine," "You Can't Be True Dear," and "Blue Moon." Sustaining, NBC. (9:50; 8:10; 11:40)

A DATE WITH JUDY (1940s) Frank Sinatra makes a guest appearance as Judy dreams of her idol. Louise Erickson is Judy, Richard Crenna is Oogie Pringle. Tums, NBC. (14:35; 15:20)

RICHARD DIAMOND, PRIVATE DETECTIVE (3-16-51) Dick Powell stars. This time he's up against a human bomb. A madman has 100 sticks of dynamite strapped to his body and threatens to blow up City Hall if the Mayor doesn't jump off the building! Sustaining, NBC. (14:55; 15:40)

JACK BENNY PROGRAM (4-9-50) Generous Jack gives a panhandler fifty cents! Eddie "Rochester" Anderson, Dennis Day, Phil Harris, Don Wilson, Frank Nelson, Mel Blanc, Artie Auerbach, Sara Berner and Frank Fontaine. Lucky Strike Cigarettes, CBS. (12:10; 15:00)

SATURDAY, JULY 10th

AVALON TIME (10-18-39) Variety show starring Red Skelton with singer Dick Todd. Red offers a "slice of life" sketch in which he plays an expectant father. Avalon Cigarettes, NBC. (7:48; 8:20; 11:18)

THE THIRD MAN (1950) Orson Welles stars as Harry Lime who joins a circus to uncover a war criminal. Zither music by Anton Karas. Syndicated. (11:49; 15:43)

JUDY CANOVA SHOW (8-24-43) Judy needs a new dress for a date with Mickey Rooney. Mel Blanc, Ruby Dandridge, Eddie Dean, Ken Niles. Colgate Toothpaste, CBS. (11:35; 7:05; 5:23)

INNER SANCTUM (1-12-48) "Tempo in Blood" features Mason Adams and Everett Sloane. A piano player commits the perfect crime and doesn't know it. AFRS Rebroadcast. (11:18; 13:10)

YOUR SATURDAY DANCE DATE (7-29-50) Frankie Carle and his orchestra in a remote broadcast from the Marine Ballroom of the



MEL BLANC

Edgewater Beach Hotel "on the starlit shores of Lake Michigan" in Chicago. Bill Griske announces. Selections include "That Naughty Waltz," "Carle Meets Rossini," "Play A Simple Melody" and "Let A Smile Be Your Umbrella." Sustaining, NBC. (10:25; 9:50; 8:20)

FIBBER MC GEE AND MOLLY (1-28-46) Jim and Marion Jordan star with Gale Gordon, Arthur Q. Brian, Bea Benaderet, Harlow Wilcox and Billy Mills and the orchestra. It's Pioneer Days in Wistful Vista and McGee is dressed up for a reenactment of a big bank holdup. Johnson's Wax, NBC. (10:43; 10:21; 7:32)

SATURDAY, JULY 17th

OUR MISS BROOKS (10-31-48) Eve Arden stars as Miss Brooks with Gale Gordon as Mr. Conklin, Jeff Chandler as Mr. Boynton, and Richard Crenna as Walter Denton. Connie agrees to drive Boynton to Clay City for the big football game. Palmolive, Lustre Creme Shampoo, CBS. (8:55; 12:38; 7:40)

GEORGE OLSON AND HIS MUSIC (2-20-50) Remote broadcast from the Marine Dining Room of Chicago's Edgewater Beach Hotel. Vocals by Betty Norman and Marshall Gill. John Conrad announces. Tunes include "Bees are Buzzin'," "If I Knew You Were

THOSE WERE THE DAYS • WNIB- FM 97.1

SATURDAY AFTERNOONS • 1:00 UNTIL 5:00

Coming I'd Have Baked A Cake," "Cactus Polka," and "Daddy's Little Girl." Sustaining, NBC. (9:15; 8:35; 7:05)

HALLS OF IVY (1950) Ronald and Benita Colman star as Dr. and Mrs. Hall of Ivy College. Twenty-five dollars is missing from the dormitory. AFRS Rebroadcast. (13:03; 10:32)

THE MAN CALLED X (1-6-51) Herbert Marshall appears as Ken Thurston, secret agent, with Leon Belasco as sidekick Pagan Zeldschmidt. Nazi counterfeit plates show up in South America after the war. RCA Victor, Anacin, NBC. (16:20; 13:21)

BOB HOPE SHOW (12-11-45) Old Ski Nose broadcasts from Phoenix, Arizona, with Francis Langford, Jeffy Colonna, Skinnay Ennis and the orchestra, and guest, actor Herbert Marshall. Hope and Marshall appear in a Western sketch. AFRS Rebroadcast. (6:58; 9:30; 11:49)

THE BIG STORY (12-15-47) "The Case of the Final Curtain" stars Les Tremayne as Aubrey Maddock, editor of the Hartford Daily Current. A young woman is worried about the treatment her father, a retired actor, is getting at a retirement home. Pall Mall Cigarettes, NBC. (13:02; 11:57)

SATURDAY, JULY 24th

XAVIER CUGAT AND HIS ORCHESTRA (8-11-51) Remote broadcast from the Beachwalk of the Edgewater Beach Hotel in Chicago. Bill Griske announces. Latin selections include "Sibonet," "Mambo Jambo," "Begin the Beguine," "Cuban Mambo," and "Brazil." Sustaining, NBC. (12:41; 11:35)

DENNIS DAY SHOW (1951) Eddie "Rochester" Anderson guests on this second show of the series as Dennis wants to hire the famous valet away from Jack Benny! Vocals by Peggy King. Jimmy Wallington announces. Rochester sings "Just Call Me Lucky" and Dennis offers "Three Coins in the Fountain." Sustaining, NBC. (14:28; 9:20)

NICK CARTER, MASTER DETECTIVE (1940s) "Case of the Little Old Ladies" starring Lon Clark as Nick, "that most famous of all man-hunters, the detective whose ability at solving crime is unequalled in the history of detective fiction." Sustaining, MBS. (16:54; 11:54)

ADVENTURES OF OZZIE AND HARRIET (3-6-49) Spring is in the air at 1847 Rogers Road but Ozzie's compliments to Harriet backfire! Cast includes John Brown, Lurene Tuttle, and David and Ricky Nelson. International Silver Company, NBC. (15:35; 14:04)

SUSPENSE (10-18-45) "Summer Storm" star-

ring Henry Fonda. An argument over rent money leads to murder. AFRS Rebroadcast. (15:05; 9:10)

EDDIE CANTOR SHOW (12-6-44) Harry Von Zell, Cantor's announcer, decides to quit and get another job. Eddie tries to get Don Wilson to work for him. Nora Martin, Leonard Sues, the Sportsmen Quartet, Sai Hepatica, Trushay, NBC. (8:50; 9:40; 9:20)

SATURDAY, JULY 31st

X MINUS ONE (2-29-56) "Hello Tomorrow" starring Jan Miner and John Larkin. In the year 4195, after the third Atomic War, civilization is under ground to survive intense gamma radiation. Galaxie Science Fiction Magazine, NBC. (14:07; 10:19)

IT PAYS TO BE IGNORANT (8-23-46) Tom Howard moderates the panel of zanies: Lulu McConnell, Harry McNaughton and George Shelton. The panel tackles such questions as "Is North Carolina north or south of South Carolina," and "What is the name of the detective in the Dick Tracy comic strip?" AFRS Rebroadcast. (10:20; 10:11; 10:18)

MY FAVORITE HUSBAND (1950) Lucille Ball and Richard Denning appear in a radio situation comedy that was the forerunner of her "I Love Lucy" television series. Liz and George Cooper appear in romantic love scenes — with other partners — in a stage show. AFRS Rebroadcast. (12:55; 10:20)

I WAS A COMMUNIST FOR THE F.B.I. (1952) starring Dana Andrews as undercover agent Matt Cvetic. Matt learns of dissention among workers at a logging camp in a mountain town. Syndicated. (11:51; 15:12)

BILL SNYDER AND HIS ORCHESTRA (6-1-51) Remote broadcast featuring "the man who Bewitched the nation" from the Marine Dining Room of the Edgewater Beach Hotel in Chicago. Charles Chan announces. Music includes "I Can't Believe That You're in Love with Me," "Thinking of You," "What is This Thing Called Love?," "Chicago Blues," and "I'll Remember April." Sustaining, NBC. (11:30; 12:55)

EDDIE CANTOR SHOW (12-13-44) Announce Harry Von Zell still refuses to work for Cantor, who is forced to do the commercial himself. Harry has a job selling candy at a burlesque house. Nora Martin, Leonard Sues, Cookie Fairchild and his orchestra. Trushay, Sai Hepatica, NBC. (8:00; 7:35; 12:20)

HELLO, OUT THERE IN Radioland!!

WE GET LETTERS

WESTMONT — Somehow I feel I know you well enough to call you Chuck even though you don't know me. For years our family has listened to your show on Saturday afternoons. It surely brings back memories. Did your parents ever wonder how you managed to do homework and listen to the radio shows at the same time? Last Sunday we made our first visit to Metro Golden Memories. (Our daughter) Judy, 13, came along because she just recently has been crazy about Clark Gable and thought she might find something about him. She was not disappointed. My husband spied an Orphan Annie decoder and I noticed some old Disney comics like I still have. It was fun. Thanks for the memories. — **BERNADETTE BECKER**

OAK PARK — I've been listening to your show for about six months. I've enjoyed every program you've done and my excitement about Old Time Radio has increased with every show. I am 25 years old and so all of this is new to me. I am not part of a Nostalgia Craze . . . I just find radio programs exciting, interesting and very well done for the most part. I am an actor by training and by profession, but I have learned more about acting since I started listening to radio shows, especially Agnes Moorehead. She is truly a great actress. I was wondering if there is a club or group of people that are interested in radio shows. If you know of a group that welcomes beginners, I'd be interested. — **DAVID KIZLER**

(ED. NOTE — The Society for the Preservation and Encouragement of Radio Drama, Variety and Comedy (SPERDVAC) is a fine organization that helps to uncover vintage radio programs. The group has a publication and a library and is willing to share programs with members. Regular meetings are held in the Southern California area, but membership is open to serious collectors throughout the country. For information, write to SPERDVAC, Box 1587, Hollywood, California 90028.)

MAYWOOD — Loved the tape of your interview with George Balzer. Want to mention one thing he brought out: the transition from radio into television that Jack Benny made so easily and successfully. I remember the many shows and performers who could not make it in the TV area. I feel more nostalgia for the days when I listened to radio. I was a member of a dramatic troupe broadcasting weekly for

almost 10 years under the name of The Little Theatre of WFEA (Manchester, New Hampshire). During WW II I wrote, produced and appeared in 15-minute radio shows at various New Hampshire stations as a WAVE recruiter. These were approved by the Office of War Information 10 days before airing. I am so glad that I found your show. Keep it up. — **ALBERTA B. DEAL**

WARRENVILLE — I've just finished listening to the final segment of your interview with Milt Josefsberg and want to compliment you on the fine work you did with both this interview and also your conversation with George Balzer. It was fun to "be with" these guys who were instrumental in creating the heart and humor of the Jack Benny Show. The origins of the running gags and the insights into how the programs were put together add an extra dimension to our enjoyment of the shows. Mostly, however, I want to thank you for doing the interviews and sharing them with us. Even though these interviews probably provided you with a lot of personal enjoyment, I want you to know that we appreciate the initiative you took in making them. The interviews are valuable additions to our library of tapes and are certainly a valuable link to the heritage left to us by Jack Benny. — **LOWELL ANDERSON**

CHICAGO — Enjoyed your interview with Milt Josefsberg, Jack Benny's writer. Your spring program (March 20th) was hilarious! I was a bit exhausted, and was half-napping while listening to Ozzie and Harriet. It was so funny I was laughing in my sleep! Terrific entertainment — dead, alive, or half-asleep. You really seem to love your work. It comes across clearly in your voice. — **D. NAKULSKI**

DES PLAINES — I've been meaning to write since last Halloween. Boy, am I gullible! I was driving in my car to the store when you started telling the story about you and your brother going into the attic and saw the moving coffin. I sat there until the punch line!! You were so convincing and I just sat there glued to the radio. I must have heard this a long time ago, but had forgotten it. I enjoy the program, but can only hear it in the car from work to the store so stories like Suspense are never heard from beginning to end. But (comedy) programs . . . are appreciated 'cause I get to hear jokes. I've been to the M-G-M Shop on Irving Park. It's fantastic! — **FLORENCE BUDNY**

BUDD LAKE, NEW JERSEY — My husband and I have listened to and enjoyed your program for the last two years. All Saturday chores were always finished by 1 p.m. for lunch in front of the radio. We have recently had to relocate to the western New Jersey area and miss the old time radio shows. I would appreciate your letting us know of any New Jersey, New York or Philadelphia stations that broadcast some type of old radio shows. — **MRS. DAVID BRANDKAMP**

(ED. NOTE — We're not aware of any specific old time radio shows being broadcast from your area, but you should first check the "radio highlights" section of the local newspapers. If that fails, I suggest you call or write the radio-television editors of the newspapers to ask if such programming exists in your community. The editors often know of such programs, even though the listings do not give them coverage.)

MT. PROSPECT — Here's a clipping from Friday's Chicago Tribune as you requested on your program yesterday. Normally, I'm one of the silent majority out here in "Radioland," but I want to take this opportunity to tell you how much I enjoy listening to Those Were The Days and reading the Nostalgia Newsletter. Your broadcast of old commercials was a clever, entertaining diversion; even though I remember how disliked those commercial messages seemed 25 or more years ago. Also, I really like your interviews with old-time radio personalities. **DONALD FROELICH.**

(ED. NOTE — Thanks to you and all those who sent clippings of the Tribune article in praise of our Metro-Golden-Memories Shop. We have enough copies to paper the studio!

CHICAGO — Finally visited the Metro Golden Memories Shop. It really has a lot to look at! There is nothing like the good old days! — **BERNIE NYQUIST**

CHICAGO — Since I started listening to Those Were The Days, Saturday is an Event! Keep up the good work. — **BRIAN KATZ**

BERWYN — Being in our late thirties, we can't really remember the shows when they were on originally. Since we've been listening to your show, we have purchased 10 or 12 albums of radio mysteries and we also tape from your broadcast. A lot of people love your show and look forward to it every week. We agree with the statement that pictures on radio are better than TV! — **JIM AND PAULETTE MIRALLEGRO**

ARLINGTON HEIGHTS — I was a teen-ager during WW II and those 1940s programs bring back lots of memories. — **JOHN R. NORDIN, SR.**

PALATINE — Really appreciate the Tender Loving Care you put into your Newsletter and your program. Will appreciate more Halls of Ivy, Ozzie and Harriet and much more Lux Radio Theatre. — **R. JAMES HARRING**

HOFFMAN ESTATES — Thanks for the many hours of enjoyment. We appreciate you — **ELEANOR MITCHELL**

BERWYN — It is a great pleasure that I enclose a money order for another year of the Nostalgia Newsletter. Believe me, the Newsletter is very helpful and entertaining. Helpful, because of the program guide. Entertaining, because of the articles about the Golden Age of Radio. I also like the pictures on the cover. I do have one suggestion. I wish that you could have more original articles. It would be a nice touch once in a while. — **LARRY C. LEOPARD**

(ED. NOTE — Hope you enjoy the original article in this issue by Dan McGuire, an old boyhood chum who recalls the many hours we spent reading and swapping comics during the good old days!)

EAST CHICAGO, INDIANA — While making my shopping rounds this past Saturday, I had WNIB tuned in on the car so I'd catch at least some of the Hall Closet. Let me tell you, the sounds of that organ music during the episode of The Shadow sent me into sheer nostalgic ecstasy! — **MARGARET SPISAK**

HAMMOND, INDIANA — We enjoyed Fibber McGee and Molly last Saturday. Thank you for having something to listen to on the radio. Hope you continue to have Those Were The Days forever. They are much better than what's on now. — **JAMES AND DOLLY BULLARD.**

BURBANK — Since we started listening to the old radio shows over four years ago, our Saturdays are always "special" days. — **EDWARD SLAVIK.**

LA GRANGE — I listen much of the time, tape some. Have been recording (radio shows) since 1946 — started with a "Meisner" disc recorder. — **MAYNARD WIESE.**

BROOKFIELD — Time flies when you're having fun. You said it, I said it. So did my wife, when I did not paint the windows, the house, the garage. Everytime I started these tasks, your Hall Closet opened and I was trapped from 1 to 5 p.m. My wife is holding my Newsletter as ransom for the work to be completed within the next two weeks. So long, Chuck! — **JIM**

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GINGER ROGERS
Kitty Foyle

The House of Squibb presents Ginger Rogers in her 1940 OSCAR winning role. She promises to marry two men on the same day and at the same time. The story revolves about her decision ... which one shall she marry? Good show. 4/6/46

FRED ASTAIRE
Sky's the Limit

The story of "boy meets girl, boy loses girl, boy gets girl." A World War II fighter pilot on leave is about to return to active duty, but a misunderstanding with his girl must be resolved first. Fast flowing Fred Astaire action and humor. No dancing. 4/24/49.

THE WHISTLER
"Broken Chain"

"I am the Whistler, and I know many things, for I walk by night ..." Elliott Lewis, as Arnold Stanton, hates his prattling, nonsensical wife. It would be too cruel to leave her as she is so dependent upon him, so he plans a "simple" murder. A strange and interesting ending to this very nerve-grIPPING story. 8/21/46.

THE WHISTLER
"In the Dark"

"I know many strange tales, many secrets hidden in the hearts of men and ..." Tom, a wealthy ship-builder is going blind. He is suspicious of his wife and arranges for a sea-going venture to "take care of things." Once again, it doesn't always work out as planned. 2/7/43.

Get your tapes at any North West Federal Division of Talman Home office, at the Metro-Golden-Memories Shop in Chicago, or the Great American Baseball Card Company in Morton Grove. By Mail, send \$5.93 (includes tax and postage) for each tape to HALL CLOSET, Box 421, Morton Grove, 60053.