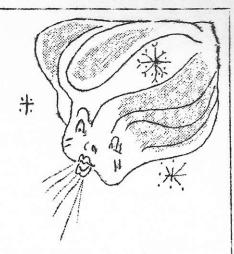
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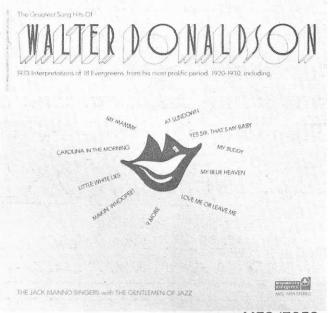
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VOL. 2 (BLP-C8)

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"AT LAST I'M HAPPY" "HOMEMADE SUNSHINE"

1928 - 1932

TED LEWIS ORCHESTRA

FOURTEEN SELECTIONS INCLUDING:

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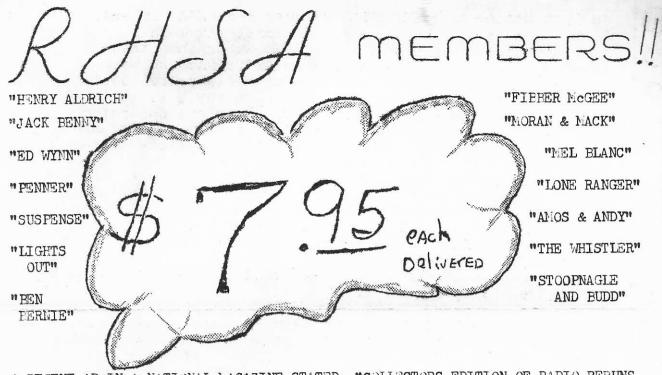
ADDRESS ABOYE

An Open Letter to RADIO DIAL readers and RHSA Members. The continuing debate over the moral and legal implications of selling old radio shows (rather than swapping) continues. The hair-line difference between the two approaches to collecting (either way the question of royalties is disregarded; is it more moral to sell an occasional show or two; is there a serious collector out there who has never profited from a trade, swap, etc., as opposed to Making a business of it?) I believe to be 0 Our company, Meta-Com, Inc., is one of the largest manufact-0 urers and distributors of "exact length" blank cassette tapes in the country. Our entry into the "Old Time Radio Business" on a promotional basis was based upon my personal addiction to old radio. The company intends to expand its use of old radio shows during 1974. I am pleased that RADIO DIAL and Charlie Ingersoll now accept paid advertising soliciting the sale of old shows, magnetic tape, etc...because...AND THIS IS THE POINT ... RADIO DIAL and 0 RHSA must grow to survive. Paid advertisements will help expand membership and turn RADIO DIAL - my addiction and probably 0 yours - into a monthly mania! Who knows, exposure and interest could mean a bi-weekly publication, (Charlie! You are going to need a staff.) On another page of this issue you will find a paid advertisement designed to please you, help RHSA gain needed income, and of course, leave a reasonable profit for Meta-Com. I trust that you will give this modest proposal serious consideration. 0 Best regards 0 1110 ani 0 James I. McCann Director of Marketing Meta-Com Incorporated. (RHSA Member) THE ADVERTISEMENT MENTIONED IN THIS LETTER ON OPPOSITE PAGE. MEMBER Bill Blalock, 609 Blue, Richland, Wash. 99352 will trade radio shows for transcriptions from 1930's, early sound film comedies, lobby cards from 1920's and 1930's. Bill has over 20,000 taped shows. Many of the programs from transcriptions. THE CRYSTALGIA SET -- By: CLYDE MILLER ---All during the 1930's, "DOWN BY HERMAN'S", with Herman, Lena, 'Owgust', Johann and the little German band, foamed the accented humor and music of a German beer garden, to happy Milwaukeans. Eventually, the program was nationally syndicated. This ethnic 'programmar' was written and produced by Erich Krall, who also portrayed Herman. Another of his achievments was composing the

Green Bay Packer fight song. He was 85, when last April, he heard his closing theme. *** ***

If you are interested in a CASSETTE EXCHANGE SOCIETY drop member TOMMY HARRISON, JR. 7015 Crystal Valley Road, Little Rock, Ark. 72204 a note and he will send you full details.

RADIO DIAL- THE "FIRST" PUBLICATION DEVOTED TO OLD RADIO DAYS!



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++++ ++++

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England's most fabulous saxophone soloist.

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Twelve superb reissued sides, four with the Peter Yorke Concert Orchestra, six with sparkling rhythm sections, and two with a large studio band made up of England's finest musicians. Eight of these were reissued previously in the U. S., but have long been unavailable.

Four great jazz sides appear for the first time in this country. The former selections include I ONLY HAVE EYES FOR YOU, ROSES OF PICARDY, BODY AND SOUL, five others. The latter include CHINA BOY, AIN'T MISBEHAVIN', JAPANESE SANDMAN, and BABY WON'T YOU PLEASE COME HOME.



SOMETHING NEW

STEVE CLAYTON

sings

GLADYS SHELLEY

and

STEVE CLAYTON

MES/7045

M-E brings you the first solo album by the singer whose voice is familiar to all via radio and TV commercials, especially the current Rheingold Beer TV spots and the recently discontinued Palisades Park jingle, which was on radio for several years until the closing of the amusement facility. Steve sings fourteen contemporary songs by Gladys Shelley, on six of which he collaborated. Includes ALL I WANT, CLOWN TOWN, HE WILL CALL AGAIN, THE FEMININE HEART, ten more.

Steve Clayton also appears on several tracks of M-E's Irving Berlin tribute, the three volume ALL BY MYSELF.

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RADIO STARS OF THE PAST - HOW MANY DO YOU REMEMBER? -----Richard Himber - Ford Bond - Irene Rich - Ray Block - Alice Faye - Dorothy Lowell - Thomas L. Thomas - Florence Freeman - Harry Von Zell - Beatrice Lillie - Alexander Woolcott - Phillips Lord - Lois Bennett - Pauline Alpert - Wayne King - Joe Sanders - Ray Perkins -Patricia Norman - Margaret Speaks - Bernardine Flynn - James Melton Jane Pickens - Don Ameche -Frank Munn - The Lane Sisters - Poley McClintock - Judy Canova - Bob Burns - Anne Stone - Victor Moore -Helen Broderick - Bobby Breen - Deanna Durbin - Walter O'Keefe -Johnny Green - Lanny Ross - Nadine Conner - Virginia Verrill - Rudy Vallee. ALL "GREAT STARS OF THE GOLDEN AGE OF RADIO! FOGOTTEN? NO! FROM THE YEAR 1937! Kate Smith's manager and announcer Ted Collins, sat in a controlroom listening to his charge, as she sang as guest star on Richard Himber's program. For the last chorus of the song. Kate swung into a livelier tempo which she beat for the orchestra herself, adding a husky note to her voice --- and there you had a good example of the style of singing which used to be called "coon shoutin'." Collins looked surprised and then burst into laughter. "Kate loves to sing that way." he explained. "but we very seldom let her do it on her own program. Her real appeal is in the ballad singing and we steer away from the shouting style. "She didn't rehearse the song that way this afternoon, but she just couldn't resist the temptation to let out when she knew I was back here and couldn't do anything about it!" A MEMBER SAYS: How about more illustrations (photos) in the future of old radio stars like Earl Nightingale, Jack Mathes, Harry Lang, "Bud" Collyer, Ed Prentiss, Curley Bradley, Howard Culver, Bill Forman, Bret Morrison, Carlton Kadel, Roy Rogers and Dale Evans. Our answer to his request is this: We wish it was possible to print pictures of the old radio stars but our present membership fee does not cover the high cost of off-set printing. We paid \$30.00 per page for off-set covers for a few issues or a total of \$60.00 for front and back pages. This was paid for by a \$100.00 donation from a very active member of RHSA. If every member would donate \$1.00 to a PRINTING FUND we would be able to have printed pictures for many issues of RADIO DIAL. If you wish to donate that amount (or more) please state in your letter that it is for the PRINTING FUND. MEMBER SUZANNE STROMBERG SAYS: "Jack Smith, who is the MC on the current television show "YOU ASKED FOR IT", used to be known as THE MAN WITH A SMILE IN HIS VOICE, when he had his own 15 minute radio show, doing singing of popular songs. He was either preceded by or followed by the 15 minute JACK KIRKWOOD COMEDY SHOW. These on one of the major netwoks in the Los Angeles area in 1940's" MEMBER RONALD LAPORTE, 985 Brock Apt. #302, Windsor (ONT) CANADA, would like some tapes of the GRAND OLD OPEARA and the NATIONAL BARN DANCE shows. Will buy any tape of these shows as he is just a new member and does not have a very large tape library so is unable to swap at the present time. Hope we can help, Ron! SONG HITS OF 1939 -- "SOUTH OF THE BORDER" - "DEEP PURPLE" - "SCATTERBRAIN" - "OVER THE RAINBOW" - "WISHING" - "AND THE ANGELS SING" - "MOON LOVE" - "STAIRWAY TO THE STARS" - "THE BEER BARREL POLKA" - "JEEPERS CREEPERS" -- REMEMBER THEM? ANYONE KNOW THE ADDRESS OF FORMER MEMBER TEXAS CODY? R.H.S.A. WOULD LIKE TO GET IN TOUCH WITH HIM. LIVED IN JAMAICA, N.Y.

an encounter with Fred Allen

By: Dr. Arthur A. Delaney

There are numerous reasons why old time radio fans read the Dial. They want contacts for program exchange, sources for inexpensive blank tape, technical information, and news of current re-broadcasts. Probably one of the most salient of reasons is the recollection of yesterday's radio by the occasional contributor or Charlie's mnemonic mom. For readers like me who are over ...ty years old, the reminiscences of others are pure nostalgia integrated with long-forgotten information. For young readers, the various recollections are instructive in the history of what yesterday's radio listener enjoyed via those marvelous waves of ether.

In common with so many readers, I enjoyed radio in those now-ancient evenings when I listened live to my bedroom "cathedral" and not to the turning reels of polyester. (It seems like only yesterday!) But having lived within easy traveling distance to New York's Radio City, my enjoyment went further than "just" listening and imagining. Our next door neighbor was a musician who played with many of the big shows and he use to keep my family supplied with numerous tickets for some of the best programs produced in New York. One of the highlights of my teenage existence was to ride by train into the Big City to attend a live show. Part of the fun, believe it or not, was to dress up in a suit and wear a tie. I cannot help to reflect parenthetically on how teenage perceptions of a "good time" have changed, but then, the world has changed along with the medium that once entertained it without rival.

In common with so many of the young people who attended live performances, I was always in search of autographs. One of my favorite hunting grounds was the Fred Allen Show. I walked up and down Allen's Alley and managed to meet and obtain the autographs of all its unique residents. Unfortunately, time has taken its toll, and all those cherished signatures have become lost but one, the bold

inscription of Fred Allen, himself.

Allen seemed most elusive to me and try as I did, I continually missed meeting my favorite comedian. Finally, I cornered him one night in the studio lobby. "May I shake your hand and may I have your autograph, Mr. Allen?" I panted. I always had my supply of 3 x 5 cards readily at hand, and I quickly whipped one out. "Why, certainly, young fellow," replied Allen in his famous nasal twang.

He gave me a firm handshake and reached for the card.

"Now, if you'll let me have your fountain pen, I'll make my mark, " he grunted. I reached for my pen. It wasn't there, I fumbled and searched my pockets. I broke into a sweat. Allen seemed to enjoy my predicament. "Now, come, come, my friend," he twanged knife-like. "What kind of an autograph collector do you call yourself if you don't come prepared with the tools of your trade? What would happen to a plumber if he went to work without his wrench? Down the drain! No, I don't think you'll make it as a professional autograph hound. There's just no future for you!"

Chagrined and embarrassed, but thinking quickly, I replied: "I asked Mr. Benny for his autograph earlier, Sir, and I think he forgot to return my pen." To my relief, I noticed Allen smile for the first time. "Benny, eh! Yes, he's been known for doing that," Allen quipped. "In fact, he sells them in front of

Lindy's. I believe he has a curbside concession."

"Here," he nasaled, "I'll supply my own pen." Allen reached into his pocket. He fumbled as I had a few minutes price. Allen also had no pen, but he did not exhibit my earlier embarrassment.

(CONTINUED NEXT PAGE)

AN ENCOUNTER WITH FRED ALLEN - CONTINUED.

Taking a cue from my feeble attempt at Allen-type humor, he simply stated: "Ah, yes! I, too, spoke with Benny earlier." Allen stopped a passing porter, borrowed a pencil, and signed my card "From a Man in Radio City, Fred Allen." He shook my hand once again, and as he moved off to more important matters, he parted with: "I like you, young fellow."

I never spoke with Fred Allen again, but I know I am richer for having had that brief encounter with one of the worlds most unique personalities. When Fred Allen died in 1956, I thought his incomparable, stinging wit was lost forever. "Allen's Alley"had succumbed to urban renewal some years prior, but remnants of his satiric humor continued to be heard on TV's "What's My Line." Sudden death did not still this magnificent man, however. He will always live as long as collectors preserve his programs and perpetuate his legacy through tape exchange.

Fred Allen once wrote a book, <u>Treadmill to Oblivion</u>, which deals with his experiences in radio. It may still be available in public libraries. Currently sold by Pocket Books (#75110) for 75¢ is <u>Fred Allen's Letters</u>, an anthology of Allen's correspondence edited by Joe McCarthy.

NEIL R. LANE, 787 Dodge Street, Westville, IN. 46391. Neil is a teacher. Will swap radio shows. Interested in variety, comedy, documentary, old 78°s and radio books and magazines.

BRUCE HOLT, Box 45, Evanston, ILL. 60204. Bruce is self employed. Will swap! Interested mostly in in programs that originated in Chicago. If you have shows that originated in Chicago, drop Bruce a line.

DAVID JOYNER, Box 474, El Dorado, ARK. 71730. Dave is a machinest. Will trade shows! Says he is interested in anything concerning old time radio. He has about 700 programs and would appreciate any help you can give him to increase his library of programs.

IRWIN GOLDBERG, 147C Versailles Circle, Baltimore, ND. 21204. Irwin is teacher. Does not care to swap at this time.

PHILIP (PHIL) COLE, 1539 Deception Rd. Anacortes, Wn. 98221. Does not want to swap but is interested in great comedies and dramas. Collects both cassette and reel-to-reel. Did not check the swap line on application so don't know why he doesn 't want towp.

THOMAS JAMES FOESCH, 62705, 108th Street, Hales Corners, Wisc. Will swap reels. Interested mostly in Sky King, The Silver Eagle, The Falcon, Straight Arrow, Bulldog Drummond, Sherlock Holmes, Mr. & Mrs. North and Sgt. Preston.

If you are a NOSTALGIA COLLECTOR---do not miss the full page ad in this issue about BIOGRAPH RECORDS. These records really take you back to the 20's and 30's! Hear RUTH ETTING sing "Button Up Your Overcoat" -- "Deed I Do". Hear Ted Lewis back in the 30's sing "Homemade Sunshine" and "On The Sunny Side Of The Street" plus many more Nost of the selections have never been put on LP's before.

As of January 1st, 1974 membership dues for RHSA are \$5.50 a year. The 50ϕ will take care of the postage increase in January.

be entertained.

I grew up listening to radio for entertainment -- "Straight Arrow" "The Shadow", "Big John & Sparky", "Grand Ol' Opry", "Game of the Day"---then TV came along and I wasted a good 20 years watching it. I still watch more of it than is good for a person, but I watch less TV today than at any time since the dawning of the tube, those wide-eyed days when I would walk three miles to a friend's house to see wrestling and "I Love Lucy" on a screen no bigger than a home movie.

There are probably a combination of reasons to explain it, including changing life-style, but I have had a growing awareness of

a near-total reversal in my media allegiance.

Between the two, I draw considerably more entertainment, news and satiscaction from out of the radio today than from out of the tube. Whether this is mostly because radio has recovered from the doldrums of the 50's and early 60's, or because TV has somehow managed to get worse, I'm not sure. A lot of both, I imagine.

I do not feel alone in taking this position. I suspect more and more people are turning to their radios, and letting their TV sit dark, because radio frequently does a better job of providing whatever it is people are seeking when they turn to an electronic

source for satisfaction.

One reason for switching is that radio in 1970's is a lot more sophisticated than TV. TV is more spectacular -- and it is only the televising of great events that saves it --- but radio is more sophisticated on a day-to-day basis. I even like disc jockeys again! I haven't fully enjoyed disc jockeys since I was a minor.
But I find the cream of the current crop of disc jockeys to be

more pleasant on the ear and mind than 9 out 10 people talking on TV, including the late-night hosts. (I am not speaking, of course,

of Top 40 disc jockeys).

Figuring my time at home in the early morning preparing for work, time spent inside the car commuting to and from work and racing about town, I probably listen to radio an average of four hours every day.

This is at least twice the average amount of time I spend each day staring at TV. Further, while I usually turn on the TV out of habit, I turn on the radio because I look forward to what will be

coming out of it.

There is, naturally, a wider selection on radio. My TV will only bring in five channels and it is common with me to spin the dial past all five without landing on something worth watching, or at least something which I care to watch. With radio, I can always find something entertaining or informative.

And it is so much easier to listen to radio than to watch TV, where you have to sit through so much bad to occasionally catch

something good.

News, local or national, in generally better on radio than on TV. Even the radio types who have adopted the chit-chatty gilding of news carry it off better than their counterparts on the evening tube.

Commercials are less offensive on radio.

And I have become so satiateddby football on TV----perhaps satiated by football announcers on TV is a better way to put it—that I am often contented to be driving somewhere while listening to an exciting game on the radio. There was a time just a while ago when I could not bear to hear a televised football game on radio without turning in on the nearest TV set. (CONTINUED NEXT PAGE)

LISTENER COMES FULL CIRCLE-TURNS ON, BACK TO RADIO -CONTINUED.

Perhaps there is another reason I am turning on and back to radio.

TV is completely overwhelming, like a dog in heat, it wears you out and you find yourself turning elsewhere for entertainment and escape that is satisfying without being in a perpetual dither.

Radio is that.

Radio is therefore recapturing my attention, and pleasing me, more than modern TV because of all this, and because it is very reliable. Shows and show business trends come and go on TV like Top 40 disc jockeys on radio. With only minor variations, I can rely on pushing the buttons on my car radio or turning on my home radioand being rewarded with consistently good news, music, commen-

tary and informal conversation.

I don't know who has made the fullest circle, radio or me, But the reunion is proving to be a pleasant one. I hold no grudges against television. Some people will swear by it. I just think that I've stumbled on to the ideal marriage of electronic media: Radio gets me going in the morning and television puts me to sleep at night.

MEMBER RICHARD L. PARTEE, 284 Stanford Lane, Jackson, MICH 49203 says: "Although I limit my collecting to Frank Sinatra and Stan Kenton items, I occasionally pick up other programs to fill a reel. I still need many Bob Hope shows with the Kenton band. These must really be rare as I have only seven out of the 37 he did!

MEMBER LEN LAWSON, 1206 Notre Dame Court, Livermore, CA. 94550 says: "I have just recently gotten together with the people from Scotch. I am now carrying a full line of Scotch and Capitol tape and supplies. I am still offering the Capitol tape at special prices to COLLECTORS! Following are SPECIAL prices for COLLECTORS OF OLD TIME RADIO PROGRAMS ONLY. The tape is sold only in lots of 12 or 48. The price is PER REEL and includes postage and handling. 1200 foot reels 12-\$1.40-48-\$1.28. 1800 foot reels 12-\$1.65-48 \$1.53. For those wishing faster mail service add 35 cents for orders of 12 reels or fifty cents for orders of 48 reels. This will cover the cost of special handling. Items mailed with special handling go much faster than regular mail.

SOMETHING TO THINK ABOUT - The director of RHSA and editor of RADIO DIAL has just retired which enables him to work full-time with the Society. For the past few years he has been working on a BOOK about old RADIO. None of the articles in the book have ever been printed in RADIO DIAL. In order to find out how many to print he would appreciate it very much if you would tell him if you are interested. The book format would be the same as RADIO DIAL and it would sell for about \$2.00 plus postage. It could in years to come be a collectors item.

Bob Cauler, 1121 South Street, Pottstown, PA. 19464 is looking for a Hopalong Cassidy radio dated around 1950 by Arwin Industries.

+ "WE INTERRUPT THIS PROGRAM. . ."+++ BY: TOMMY HARRISON, JR.

I am most pleased at the occurance of "Nostalgic Programs" on television concerned with radio. Ironnically, the programs are seldom ever played on the medium in which they won the hearts of so many people. This is a reflection of America' hidden interest on some parts, and expressed interest on that of our-

The most accurate program concerning the history of radio and the actors in selves. the programs was presented recently on PBS on our local educational channel. This program expressed more in 90 minutes that a few shows have tried to explain in a weekly series, or anything that I've seen lately. "Great Comedians of Radio" was well worth the 90 minutes the air time took. Radio from the 30's and 40's along with some movie and television excerpts. I must ask each of you interested

to catch the re-run. I record such programs as these on television as well as the CBS Retrospect programs for my personal collection. A few have asked why record a television program. Through the recorded program I can physudo-recall the MAGIC that millions experienced when radio was! Even though I have set images in which I can associate the voice. However part of the MAGIC of radio was the fact that Amos and Andy, as well as any performer who appeared on radio, was casted to look like the listener wanted them to be. Every radio fan had a different idea of a radio studio, the place where their radio friend lived, as well as his comrades

and any prop. I'm sure you understand my point.

Ours is a society of vulgarism, discrimination and the down-put of our moral standards. Today's entertainment is in the form of "X" and "R" ratings as well as the popular phrase: "For Adults ONLY!" Moral standards and the system is shoddy. However it's nice to know that wholesome entertainment use to be the radio, now it's something you take with you when you go camping to, 2rough it". In the midst of wars, depressions, poverty and all other sorrows that plague a country the radio was some sort of relief which was just as good as any medicine for the mind. I am made aware of the influence of radio and it's charactershad their effect on the people. Numerous personalities were awarded citations, award from civic groups as well as branches of our armed forces.

I hope that the majority of the Americans will continue to respond to these programs and will express their opinions to the officials. With this type of response we might see some other programs along this line. TH, JR.

In cooperation with the San Jose Parks and recreation Department's Therapeutic Recreation Services Section, I will be offering a program in old radio for the visually handicapped of the Santa Clara Valley area; it is scheduled for mid-January or early February, 1974. In trying to insure success for

this "class", we are researching to see what types of programs have been offered elsewhere, what methods were used in presenting these programs, and whether or not the responses to the "class" were tested. I am asking that any of the members of RHSA in the Bay Area who have been (or are presently) involved in similar programs or classes (not necessarily for handicapped, but for anyone) to please contact me with details of their experience(s). We would like to see this program become so popular that it could be an on-going program for the visually handicapped; to do this, we need YOUR help. WRITE OR CALL MR. MICHAEL McAVINEY, 94 Pala Avenue, San Jose California, 95127

DESPITE RUMORS, Myrtle Vail Damerel (Myrt of "Myrt & Marge) is well and happy. RHSA received the usual Christmas Greeting from her. Myrtle lives in Chicago.

AGAIN WE ASK: If you are interested in the book RHSA is putting together on OLD TIME RADIO let us know. It will be printed similar to RADIO DIAL but much bigger. There will be many stories that never have been printed in RADIO DIAL along with some of the most requested stories from past issues. "CHARLIE"

Radio drama and comedy in America is an art form that has laid fallow too long. It is alive and well in England, Australia, South Africa and other countries because of government ownership of broadcasting, economics and public taste-or a combination of these. Why it died in America is a question that has haunted me for many years and I could not accept the simplistic answer usually

given that its demise was a result of television.

I'm enough of a conservative to believe that the good things in life should not be completely discarded because something new comes along; I'm enough of a reactionary to believe we should return to the past and examine old time radio's demise and perhaps, wistfully, reinstitute it in American broadcasting. Was OTR "...full of sound and fury, signifying nothing" and merely a sometimes interesting diversion we tolerated until television was perfected? Definitely not. I believe OTR was a lively art that was killed by certain irrevocable forces; namely, fragmentation, listlessness, avarice and a mere footnote in American

history known as Red Channels.

Sam J. Slate and Joe Cook in their book It Sounds Impossible, published in 1963, have said that "fragmentation of the audience" was one reason for radio's decline. When OTR was at its peak (1945 to 1950) we had between 1000 and 2000 stations; the quality of radio declined inversily in proportion to the number of new stations largely due to the "framentation of the audience" which resulted when national advertising went with network television. This left non network radio stations to attain a level of programming akin to the local talent concept of 1925. It is not difficult to project this idea further (for an entertaining example read Stanly Elkin's novel, The Dick Gibson Show) and say that so-called imaginative programming today thinks the audience is the local talent via the telephone-talk shows.

Listlessness on the part of radio networks and listeners is something that covers a multitude of sins. The radio industry did not compete with television in developing new production styles and imaginative program concepts. The radio industry should have done this when they still had radio networks (not to be confused with contemporary radio networks) and national advertisers; I'm sure it is impossible to do so on a local level because of the cost factor. We cannot say that our nation lacks writers of radio scripts, 45 witness the tremendous response to the national contest held by the non commercial educational radio nwtwork in which 400 scripts were submitted (fnom a New York Times article dated

Dec. 14, 1968, and reprinted by Bob Vito in Stand By).

One example of radio's failure is in what I believe to be OTR's finest hour, namely programs of fantasy. I realize that science fiction encompasses fantasy but time and technology have a way of catching up with the writers of science fiction per se. Before their ink is dry the science aspect has become a reality. Time, however, never seems to catch up with fantasy since fantasy is a subconcious intellectualization of referent alien to the way our conscious mind usually thinks about the space-time continuum. Perhaps radio is the best medium for fantasy which is something tenuous, subtle and unreal. By its very nature, fantasy is inseperable from the imagination. For a fantasy to be effective it must partake of the imagination, and this cannot be accomplished when everything is visually to an audience. As far as I'm concerned fantasy and the visual media are a contradiction in terms. They are irreconcilable.

Listlessness on the part of listeners is really a study in democracy and what happens when citizens fail to act. As citizens of a democracy whose government says the people own the air waves and grant licenses to radio stations through our representative, the FCC, we have a right to criticize radio's present level of vulgarity. More than a right, we have a duty as partisipants in this democracy. A duty that should have been excercised long before by many citizens. My generation was enamored by television, but there is a generation today that has taken television for granted and are certainly not awed by its newness—as we were in the Fifties. ——MORE ON NEXT PAGE———

A POST-MORTEM EXAMINATION OF OLD TIME RADIO - Continued. This new generation is looking for something different--why else do you suppose the old radio shows are popular on college radio stations? Radio drama is new to them and they love it.

Avarice, one of the seven deadly sins, was assiduausly applied by both the networks and the local stations in total disregard for the public "interest. convenience, and necessity". In the early 50°s, the radio networks allegedly took their handsome profits from radio and put them in television in the hope of future profits from this new medium. By the late 50°s, local stations affiliated with the networks had decided they were loosing money by carrying network shows. After all, much more could be made from local sponsors and a program format of spinning records ad infinitum, ad nauseam,

Red Channels: The Report of Communist Influence on Radio and Television was published in June, 1950, and purported to be an expose of certain writers. directors, producers and actors who were communists or dupes of the Soviet Communist Party. It succooded in blacklisting some of the greatest talent in the history of radio, and at a time when radio could ill afford their loss if it were to survive. By itself, Red Channels would not have killed OTR but combined with the other forces at work, the inevitable resulted; and you and I dear listener lost the whole world of radio drama. DON SCOTT-MEMBER OF RHSA.

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===I CAN REMEMBER=== ++++++++++++++++

During the late 20's and early 30's we had battery radios. We lived in the country and electric lites hadn't reached our little cornor of the wilderness. Our first set was a Stewart-Warner console. How pretty it looked standing in the corner by the fireplace. (I still have a picture of the fireplace corner showing the beautiful Stewart Warner). As I said before, we had no electricity so the radio was powered by 3 "B" batteries, a "C" battery and and an "A" battery (usually called a "wet" battery). Times were hard and having two "A" batteries would been too much of a luxury...so Dad Ingersoll strung wires from the car battery in the garage (a distance of about 100 feet) ... and clamped the wires on the battery shooting the power across the wires to the back of the radio. This worked perfect...and since Dad was working away from home and driving 40 miles a day to and from work....there was always a supply of "juice" to power our radio so we could hear Amos & Andy and all the other good programs every night. Of course with Dad gone during the day we couldn't run the radio, .. but then we enjoyed listening to the radio together evenings ... a togetherness that I will never forget.

Our first electric radio was a Crosley table model. It stood in the middle of the mantel on our fireplace. No more batteries A special treat that came with the new Crosley was a short-wave band. Dad especially enjoyed listening to the ships at sea. police 'calls. . . ham operators etc. etc. Our radio was our only entertainment...the nearest theater was 40 miles away. You know, that old Crosley was the "travelingest" radio I know of. We moved several times along about 1943 and it went with us wherever we went. It even went to California the winter we visited Charles when he was stationed at the Presidio. It finally gave

out about 1953 after giving us over 23 years of service.

I haven't had a column in RADIO DIAL since my trip to California last June. The two weeks there was all too short but I met some wonderful people we would have never met if it hadn't been for RADIO DIAL and RHSA. That's all for this time...SEE YOU IN THE SPRING 1974 ISSUE:

A LETTER FROM A MEMBER SAYS: "RADIO DIAL and RHSA I LOVE YOU! I can't hardly wait from one issue to the other. Hope that with Charlie's retirement he will publish RADIO DIAL at least every other month. I hope other members appreciate the work and time involved in publishing a paper of this type...and yet...... Charlie told me everyone agreed that a raise in dues was necessary to keep RHSA going ... YET ... THEY WERE NOT IN FAVOR OF IT! I SAY ... DIG DOWN! FLB- Idaho.

RADIO-TV ACTOR DIES

LOS ANGELES, CALIF— Former child star Robert Ellis, whoes roles included the nasal-toned Henry Aldrich in the radio and TV comedy series is dead at 40. A family spokesman said that Ellis died in November at the John Wesley Hospital of a diagnosed kidney failure. Ellis was the last "Henry Aldrich" on radio, and according to the publication How Sweet it Was by Shulman and youman, the TV version of the radio series featured Barbara Robbins, House Jameson and June Dayton in addition to Ellis. It made it's first video appearance in 1949 while still on radio. The Aldrich Family started on radio 10 years previous in 1939

MEMBER ROBERT F. PIETTE, 1325 9th Street, Moline, ILL. 61265 has a friend in broadcasting and he has close to 50 in all of old radio 16" transcriptions. Years range from the 30's to 50's mostly of PSA Show type, with several from WW-II era. The man is interested in selling them to a collector of transcriptions. Any member of RHSA who is interested can write Bob at the above address. You can request a list by sending a self-addressed stamped envelope. NEW MEMBER- DR. C. NEIL RUSSELL, 161 Harvard Avenue, Winnipeg (MAN) CANADA R3M OJB. Would like to swap tapes. Is just a beginning collector. Interested in all radio programs. Would like to hear from members willing to swap. MEMBER JACK FISCHER, 1322 Fargo, Des Plaines, ILL. 60018is very anxious to trade radio shows. All types. Would like to get catalogs from members with LARGE collections. A "FABULOUS" book! THIS WAS YOUR HIT PARADE! Written by member John R. Williams. 210 pages crammed full of information about the HIT PARADE from 1935 to 1959. A GREAT book to add to your RADIO LIBRARY. SEE COMPLETE DETAILS ON ANOTHER PAGE OF THIS ISSUE! DOES ANYONE REMEMBER THESE? - There were two crime dramas heard in the Los Angeles area: one called "RETRIBUTION", and the other was "HERCULE POIROT" based on the Agatha Christie detective stories. There was also a program called THE MYSTERIOUS MISTER QUINN based on Agatha Christies' character Harley Quinn. Submitted by: Mrs. Suzanne Stromberg, Corte Madera, CA. An RHSA member. SUZANNE ALSO SAYS: Isn't this an amusing fact? On the Popeye show, POPEYE was played by DET POPPEN and Olive Oyl was played by OLIVE LA MOY. It's almost too good to be true! Do you suppose the actor and actress changed their names to these, just for comic effect? BLANK TAPE BLANK TAPE BLANK TAPE BLANK TAPE BLANK TAPE ---SEE LEN LAWSON'S AD ON ANOTHER PAGE OF THIS ISSUE. PRICE INCLUDES POSTAGE AND HANDLING. REAL BARGAIN PRICES! <u>a z z z kanana kana</u> THANK YOU! I would like to thank all the members who remembered me with Christmas gifts and cards. It would have been impossible for me to thank each one of you personally. Actually, I consider my large list of members as my "LITTLE FAMILY"! Thanks again and GOD BLESS YOU ALL. Charles Ingersoll. RHSA AND RADIO DIAL was founded August 26, 1956 at Cloquet, Minn. We are the "FIRST" radio society devoted to OLD RADIO DAYS! Let's keep it going for a long time to come!

AN OPEN LETTER TO ALL MEMBERS OF R.H.S.A. -----Dear Members: After many months of waiting, my retirement from my regular job with Conwed Corporation was approved on November 8,1973. Now I will be able to devote most of my spare time to R.H.S.A and RADIO DIAL. My plans for the next year or two are to publish RADIO DIAL bi-monthly with the possibility of going monthly providing that our budget will allow us to do so. R.H.S.A. and RADIO DIAL would like to thank all the members who have been so patient in the past. We realize that issues have been late ... but now we hope to get each issue out on time. We urge members to send in stories, poems...just anything that will make RADIO DIAL better. (RADIO DIAL the FIRST radio nostalgia paper.) Sincerely, Charles W. Ingersoll. NEW MEMBER-JOHN R. WILLIAMS, 24 Union Street, Camden, Maine. 04843. Jack would like to hear from anyone who has a collection of YOUR HIT PARADE radio shows. He has about 100 shows now but there are about forty more programs he does not have. He is only interested in YOUR HIT PARADE SHOWS. NEW MEMBER- CY SMITH, JR. 925 West Margaret, Pasco, WASH. 99301, Cy's main interest is collecting old radio programs of the LONE RANGÉR. Also comic books of the same nature. A MEMBER WRITES: "I am pleased that you have decided to increase the membership fee only a small amount. I think that you probably have a large number of young and older people who have to watch their penn-At any rate I feel that the contents and not the wrappis is what really counts. So even though RADIO DIAL is not printed on slick paper its a fine publication anyway." CAF-Illinois. ANOTHER MEMBER SAYS: "I've enclosed a check for another year of RADIO DIAL. You asked some time ago for comments about changing RADIO DIAL. Frankly, I like it just the way it is. It has always been well prepared, nicely layed out and well printed. I have never had difficulty reading any part of any that I have received. Maybe I'm an old stick in the mud but RADIO DIAL has become an institution with me just the way it is." LL-California. RHSA MEMBER HAS STORY PRINTED IN "GOOD OLD DAYS MAGAZINE" Member Jim Yellen says: "Just a few lines to let you know that since joining RHSA I've come in contact with many good tape swappers. Also, if you check page 55 of the November issue of GOOD OLD DAYS magazine you'll find a story by me on the GOLDEN YEARS OF RADIO." Jim Yellen, 84 Wonham Street, Clifton, N.J. 07013. USA. "I am a school Superintendent and we use the tapes in our library Resource Room. We use the tapes to improve listening habits of our students with the hope that this in turn will help their reading ability. The other purpose is for entertainment. I am willing to trade with anyone for almost any of the old radio programs. Friend of mine would like to obtain a copy of a program THREE SHEETS IN THE WIND, starring John Wayne. If any of your readers has a copy I would like to swap tapes. Also interested in old radio logs. " PETER T. TERNETTI, MĒLVIN ROAD, ROCK FALLS, ILL. 61071. MEMBER- Dr. P.D. Kimball, 6741 Highland Drive, Salt Lake City, Utah. 84121 says he is not a large collector, more of a FUN collector, but does have over 4000 shows. He also collects positive thinking courses and would be glad to trade tapes. MEMBERSHIP DUES IN R.H.S.A. ARE NOW \$5.50 PER YEAR-RENEW TODAY!

JHAT OLD TIME RADIO MEANS TOME. BY: IRWIN

My earliest recollections of radio is lying on the living room floor (I must have been 7 or 8 years old), listening to the Lone Ranger and holding between my thumb and forefinger, a beautiful, oval, fluted blue and silver Lone Ranger pin. How I sent away for it escapes me but the thrill of listening to that deep, resonant voice of the famous "masked Man", listening to the galloping hoof-beats of the "great horse Silver", accompanied by the William Tell overture, shall never, I hope, diminish in my mind.
I don't remember specific adventures of the Lone Ranger at that

time, but I do recall and exquisite sense of being snug and secure there on that floor with the lamp light throwing shadows around the room, hanging on every word, that came through the speaker.

It must have been about that same time that I recall listening in a kind of dark fascination to the radio reports of Admiral Byrd from the South Pole brought to the air by the makers of Grapenuts breakfast food. And then there was one unforgetable night when an ... Eagle Scout recited the Boy Scout Oath and I thought never would I hear anything more stirring or brave. Several years later I found myself at an investiture service of Troop 841. It was a windy, cold October Friday night and as the service proceeded around a candlelit table with the flames flickering and bouncing swift shadows on the walls, in the dark room the wind moaned against windows and the trees sighed and creaked in a slow, eerie rhythm. The 12 year old boy listened and watched and participated in those solemn ceremonial rites that invoked vivid images of Indians and wilderness, of buffalo and the vast reaches of the Western plains and of course, he heard the hoofbeats of the great white horse Silver and the stirring cry of its fearless rider.

I also remember all those Fall and Winter Sunday afternoons at 4:30 p.m. when the Peabody Blue Flame Coal Company would bring the sinister voice of the Shadow through the cloth-covered speaker of my cathedral model Philco. Lamont Cranston, wealthy, handsome man about town and his ever present lady about town, Margo Lane; to all appearances, Lamont Cranston was just a socialite interested only in fast cars and romanc. But known only to Margo Lane was Lamont's strange, mystical power to become invisible, an art learned in the Orient and whenever heinous crimes were committed, the Shadow launched a relentless counterattack to redres the scales of justice. Coupled to this was my hoarding of pennies and nickels to buy the monthly Shadow magazine. Then settled in a deep cushioned chair and munching some goddy or other, I could read of the Shadow's incredible adventures in splendid solitude. Reading, for example, of how the Shadow escaped a fiendish trap by whipping out from under his great black cape, a pair of suction cups with which he climbed the sheer walls of his prison. Once free he swiftly returned to his secret room for a "fresh pair of ,45 automatics" and went out again to smash the forces of evil.

I have many other recollections stored in my mind; of Edward G. Robinson as the tough hardboiled editor in Big Town, of the razor sharp, clipped tomes of Basil Rathbone and the soft fumbly voice of Nigel Bruce as they brought the Adventures of Sherlock Holmes to me courtesy of the makers of Bromo Quinine tablets.

(CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE)

WHAT OLD TIME RADIO MEANS TO ME - CONTINUED ----

For me old time radio is an inextricable part of how I grew up; a certain time in history. What I read was stimulated by what heard from my Philco and from what I saw at the neighborhood theaters. It's all of a piece, a mosaic of many seemingly disproportionate sights and sounds which can only have certain meanings to me. We look back not only to enjoy and let's face it, escape, but we should also look back at least once in a while to try to understand from whence we came. For in its way old time radio is history and history is having a sense for what has gone before and what has gone before is what shapes where we are now and where we may be going. Like old time religion, that's good enough for me.

LLOYD HETHERINGTON, Chikankata Secondary School, P.B.S #1 MAZABUKA,

ZAMBIA, AFRICA says: "Can you please tell me how I can obtain tapes of some of the early radio programs like THE LONE RANGER or GREEN HORNET. My children, in their pre-teens, cut off from TV and entertainment form of radio would certainly enjoy the tapes." WE ARE INSERTING A LOOSE COUPON IN THIS ISSUE FOR THOSE WHO HAVE THEIR MEMBERSHIP EXPIRING. WOULD LIKE TO CALL YOUR ATTENTION TO THE SAVING YOU CAN MAKE BY JOINING FOR TWO OR THREE YEARS. C.W.I. THE CRYSTALGIA SET -- By: Clyde Miller.

Hal (\$64.000 Question) March, gave me the answers when I questioned him about my 'Al time' favorite singer - the great Jolson. During his years of temporary retirement, Joley made only a fingerful of appearances. One of which, was a guest glint on the Burns & Allen radio ramble. Hal March, who was a member of the cast, told me that it turned in to be, one of the most 'thrilluminating' events

of his career.

In the pre-broadcast warmup, George Burns jollied Jolie into singing a number. The studio audience paid no attention, as the forgotten fellow in the plain suit, stepped into the melody. They ignored him until midway thru the song. Then with Jolie's stinging tambourine tomes crinkling their ears, and his pyrotechnic personality torching the scene, excitement began to surge thru the studio. At the conclusion of the number, the studio shuddered with applause. Jolson sat down, but the audience clammored for him to do an encore. And then another one! And another! The informal warmup had become a 'Jolsonation'. Cogent efforts to quiet the crowd was futile; and the show burst on the air with the wildly cheering audience blasting thru radio speakers, at mystified listeners.

I was so enthralled by the story, that I wanted Hal to do an encore. But we had to get back on stage for our next scene-because the show goes on. And so do our memories, of the way that America

used to sound.

MEMBER RON PARKER, 847 South Carpenter, Oak Park, ILL. 60304 asks if any RHSA members have any radio tapes from 1944-1955 featuring JANE POWELL. The program was the Edgar Bergen-Charlie McCarthy radio show. She also appeared on the RAILROAD HOUR and one FRANK SINATRA show. If you can help Ron out drop him a note.

JOHN PELLATT, 47 Stuart Avenue, Willowdale, ONT-CANADA M2N 1B2 is interested in just about everything in radio programs. Has Canadian dramas he will trade for other programs. Like comedies and mystery type shows. Also Science Fiction. Has a sizable library of the "Goon" shows. John is an interesting lad and I am sure he would be very pleased to hear from anyone that wants to trade.

RHSA WELCOMES MR. & MRS. THOMAS PETRO, 113 Raymond Street, Reading, Pa. 19605. Their membership came in just as we were closing out this issue so we do not know if they wish to trade. We will have more information about them in the Spring 1974 issue.

MEMBER JACK'R. FISCHER has a new address. Write Jack at 1322 Fargo Des Plaines, ILL. 60018. Jack's main interest and hobby is electronics, this includes receptor and printing of stallite weather pictures. Second interest is collecting and swapping old time radio programs. He has four antique radios in his collection.

TIM BELZER (age 11) 1656 East Alder, Walla Walla, Wash. 99362 just joined RHSA. More information about Tim in next issue.

New Member Dan Celli, 3551 18th Street, San Francisco, CA. 94110 wants "CANDY MATSON" radio shows. Write Dan for his other interests in radio shows.

MEMBER MICHAEL McAVINEY, 94 Pala Avenue, San Jose, CA. 95127 has well over 4000 programs in his tape library. Is interested in Country & Western programs (namely, "GRAND OLE OPRY" shows).

NOTICE! Structural Engineer CHUCK from Illinois, PLEASE write. I lost your address. GREG DOCKTER, 1913 Kennedy Ave. Bismark, N.D. 58501.

MEMBER Bruce Holt, 428 West Diversey Pkwy., Chicago, ILL. 60614 is interested in getting in touch with other members in the Chicago area who collect old radio shows. Is interested in the great number of radio shows that originated in CHICAGO. Some of the programs he would like to get are: "That Brewster Boy" — "The First Nighter" — "Those Webster's"— "Lonesome Road" — "Chicago Theater of the Air" — "NBC Playhouse" etc. etc. We urge Chicago area members to get in touch with Bruce.

WANTED: Tape copies of BIG BAND BROADCASTS from the Aragon or Trianon Ballroom's in the 30's or 40's. Would also like remotes of other BIG BAND broadcasts from the Chicago area. Members in the New Orleans area who have taped music from THE FOUNTAIN LOUNGE please contact me. Charles Ingersoll, Box 190, Cloquet, Mn. 55720.

HELLO AGAIN! This interesting newsletter is published by Jay Hickerson, Box "C" Orange, CT. Subscription price is \$4.50 a year. Published monthly. HELLO AGAIN is a MUST for the collector's of old radio shows on tape.

RHSA would like to salute San Francisco's newest radio station KPOO-FM. KPOO took to the air on June 6, 1973 at 89.5 on your FM dial. We are planning a feature story about KPOO in the Spring issue of RADIO DIAL.

THANKS! I would like to thank all the members who remembered me with cards and gifts at Christmas 1973. My mother, Leona Ingersoll, would also like to say thanks for cards and gifts that she received.

WALT HART, 9015 North 10th St. Phoenix, ARIZ. 85020 wants to trade for serial adventures...I LOVE A MYSTERY...ONE MAN'S FAMILY. He has some CAPTAIN MIDNIGHT which he will trade.

MORE SOUTH DAKOTA RADIO HISTORY IN THE SPRING ISSUE OF RADIO DIAL!

WINTER issue is right! As we round out this issue we have temperatures of 30 below and lower. A small town to the south of us had

48 below 10 days ago.

We are still having trouble with members not informing us of their change of address. Several copies were returned because NO forwardaddress was given to the postoffice. One copy was returned giving the return address, I mailed the copy out again and in the meanwhile the party had moved again and left NO forwarding address. Members who fail to keep me informed of their addresses will automatically be dropped from membership.

UP FOR BID! FIVE Radio Magazines! All are in excellent condition and complete. You have until May first to send in your bids to RHSA Box 190, Cloquet, Minn. 55720. Sent postpaid. Here's the list:

TOWER RADIO - December 1934. 98 pages. Cover picture (in color)

of the Lane Sisters.

RADIO STARS- September 1937. 94 pages. Color cover with Bergen &

McCarthy.

TUNE IN- May 1943. 64 Pages. Black & white cover of Fred Allen. RADIO MIRROR- September 1943. 90 Pages. Color cover of Cheryl

TUNE IN- May 1945, 48 Pages. Cover picture (B&W) of The Hit Parade's Joan Edwards.

NEW MEMBERS AS WE GO TO PRESS: William Manske, 714 North Eagle Oshkosh, Wisc. 54901 - Tim Belzer (age 11) 1656 Wast Alder, Walla Walla, WASH. 99362. David L. Easter, 6418 Belair Rd. Baltimore. MD. 21206.

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If you collect old 78rpm records write Peter G. Leavitt, P.O. Box 1187, Gardiner, Maine. 04345. He has a 20 page mimeographed list of music in all styles. He also has 16" transcriptions.

DO YOU LIVE NEAR WWL in New Orleans? Would like to find someone who would tape the late night music from the Roosevelt Hotel. Would like two or three programs. Will furnish tape and pay you for your time. CHARLIE INGERSOLL, Box 190 Cloquet, Mn. 55720.

ALSO FOR BID! Several copies of the old weekly magazine RADIO GUIDE. All in excellent condition and complete. Most copies are from the 30's. Our choice. Bids close on these and the magazines listed above on May 1, 1974. Sent postpaid. DO NOT ASK FOR A CHOICE..

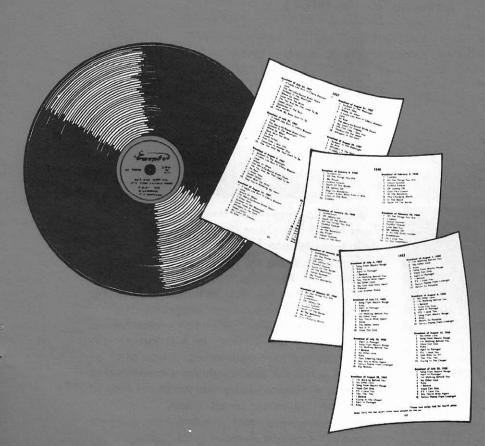
Anyone know where empty (white) tape boxes can be purchased? If you know, kindly write Charlie at RHSA. I want to make my tape boxes all the same type.

If you are interested in the 50 page book (same as RD format) we are putting together let us know. Most of the articles in the book have never been printed in RADIO DIAL. A few of our most requested past articles will be included. If interested, drop me a line/Box 190, Cloquet, Minn. 55720.

Thats all for this issue ... again ... thanks for all the Christmas cards and gifts I received at Christmas 1973. The nicest people in the world are members of RHSA. Always remember...if I can help you in any way with your hobby of collecting old radio shows on tape I am as near as your mailbox. CHARLIE.



YOUR HIT PARADE



By John R. Williams "The Hit Parade," one of the most popular music programs ever to be aired in the United States, was a part of every American's Saturday night listening in the years between 1935 and 1950, when the show made its first television appearance, to continue there for the next eight years.

During the early years when radio and other communications were still developing, "Your Hit Parade" was THE authority on just what were the hit tunes of the day, a role to be later taken over by the disk jockeys of today.

Now, for the first time, all the wonderful songs and tunes of those happier times are listed, program by program, year by year — to bring back your memories of Dad's old radio which played "I'm In The Mood For Love," who you danced with to "The Nearness Of You," where you were when 'Lucky Strike' had gone to war and the off-base juke boxes jumped to "Deep In The Heart Of Texas," and exactly when it was that "Rudolph The Red Nosed Reindeer" first became a part of your children's Christmas.

"This Was Your Hit Parade" provides a nostalgic reference tool for those who remember — and those who would like to have been there.

Just Coming Off The Press! THIS WAS YOUR HIT PARADE

Hardcover, cloth binding — 210 pp.

PRICE

Retail - \$6.95

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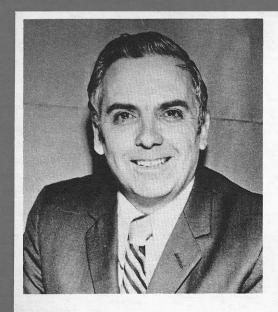
NOTE: Add 25c per copy for postage and handling charges.

Maine Residents Add 5% State Sales Tax

Checks should be made payable to John R. Williams and books ordered from him at 24 Union Street,

Camden, Maine 04843.

Printed by COURIER-GAZETTE, INC. One Park Drive, Rockland, Maine 04841



A Saturday night ritual among countless Americans for 15 years was listening to the radio for their favorite tune on "The Hit Parade." As a youngster and into his teens, Jack Williams was among those countless thousands but it wasn't until a few years ago that he turned to collecting recordings of the old radio programs.

The Camden, Maine native has a keen feeling for nostalgia for a man in his forties. An electronics engineer by training, it was after he sold his successful semi-conductor manufacturing business in Massachusetts that he found time to reflect on the music of his youth.

His engineering bent directed him to home sound systems and in looking for tape recorded material to enjoy at home, he discovered the large number of old radio programs still available today. Enjoyment of music led to The Hit Parade and this book.

Williams is a graduate of the University of Maine and founded Crystalonics, Inc., in Cambridge, Mass., in 1959. He and his Maine-born wife and their children lived for 19 years in Natick, Mass., before returning to Camden.