WLS Family Album

1938

WLS

FAMILY ALBUM

1938

Published By

THE PRAIRIE FARMER

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CHICAGO

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DEDICATION

New ideas, new methods hasten across the theatre of life, new records are set and quickly broken by greater, men claim their moment of glory and pass into oblivion. The world throbs with growth and change. With old familiar paths trampled by confused rushing to and fro of many feet, we come to your fireside as a mariner turns to the unchanging stars, to chart our course. Within the circle of your home we find peace and tranquility and love. We find eager little children and clear-eyed youth, fathers and mothers whose lives are dedicated to the building of happy and successful lives, with steadfastness and courage worthy of a poet laureate's song.

From you, our listeners, comes our inspiration and our guidance. Your friendship and your faith is our most precious possession. It is our joyous task to serve you, to make Radio Station WLS an essential part of your lives. We thrill at the thought that we are welcome in your home, and our greatest ambition is to make every spoken word and every program worthy of your ideals.

We're Proud of this Year's Work

A radio station is a very busy place. Intense activity reigns 365 days out of every year. Every day, Sundays and holidays included, men and women stay on the job to bring news, education, religious devotions, weather, market service and entertainment.

Ever since our very first program, April 12, 1924, the owners of WLS have looked upon radio as much more than a mere entertainment medium. That year we established Dinnerbell Time, Homemakers' Hour and a complete weather and farm market service. Later came the Little Brown Church of the Air and Morning Devotions. The past year, 1937, has seen the establishment of Prairie Farmer's "School Time", five 15-minute periods weekly.

HINDENBURG DISASTER

Generally acknowledged as the most outstanding and dramatic radio achievement of the year was the WLS recording of the Hindenburg airship disaster. Announcer Herbert A. Morrison and Engineer Charles F. Nehlsen flew to Lakehurst with portable equipment to record a routine description of the first 1937 landing of the giant airship. Instead, they recorded for all posterity a thrilling and dramatic description of the Hindenburg explosion and fire. Our men immediately flew back to WLS with the recording and our Dinnerbell audience heard it the following noon. Within 48 hours, this recording had been broadcast over 125 NBC stations from coast-to-coast. The picture on page 6 shows Mr. Butler presenting watches to Morrison and Nehlsen.

FLOOD DISASTER RELIEF

The flood of January, 1937, in the Ohio and Mississippi River valleys—America's worst natural disaster—found WLS listeners responding in a magnificent way. A total of about $95,000 in cash was contributed to the American Red Cross Flood Relief Fund, as well as food, clothing and other contributions. The WLS short-wave transmitter truck was driven to Evansville, Indiana, as an aid to the State Police and the Militia in rescue and relief work.

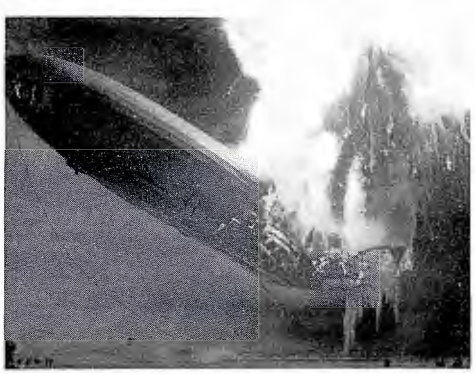
CHICAGO PUBLIC SCHOOLS

An infantile paralysis epidemic in Chicago in September, 1937, delayed the opening of schools for several weeks.

WLS Truck at Evansville

Indiana Farm Under Water

Ohio River Flood


Hindenburg Disaster

Orphans Listening to WLS Gift Radio

Health Chief on WLS

600,000th Barn Dance Visitor

Farm Sports Festival

Champ Girls Soft Ball Team

WLS immediately offered its facilities to the Chicago Board of Education. As a result, public school instructors broadcast three and four 15-minute periods daily direct to school children in their homes.

CHRISTMAS NEIGHBORS

WLS listeners contributed nearly $4,000 last December so that the WLS Christmas Neighbors Club could supply orphanages, children's hospitals and other child-caring institutions with new radios. As a result, bright new receiving sets have been making less fortunate children happier in 144 institutions of many races and creeds from Georgia to Alaska.

Over 3,000 mothers and children brought food and toys to the WLS Christmas Giving Party in the Stevens Hotel Ballroom just before Christmas. Jolly Joe's Junior Stars and our own entertainers provided the program.

FESTIVALS

During the National Folk Festival held in Chicago during May, WLS was privileged to bring many folk singers from various parts of America to the microphone. Several of our barn dance artists appeared as part of the festival.

The second annual Illinois Farm Sports Festival at the University of Illinois found WLS cooperating by broadcasting descriptive programs from this event which brought together over 3,000 farm bureau folks as participants. WLS was also active in various events of the Chicago Charter Jubilee, particularly in Farm Week activities. Thousands of people saw the entire WLS Barn Dance crew in a great show at Soldier Field, climaxing Farm Week.

LAWYER LINCOLN

A meritorious series of broadcasts was presented on Thursday nights under the title, "Lawyer Lincoln". Leading judges and attorneys of Chicago took the character parts.

CROWDS

The 600,000th visitor was honored at the Eighth Street Theater early in the year. Upwards of 1,000,000 people saw WLS boys and girls in personal appearances at state and county fairs, theaters, city auditoriums and other gathering places. Crowds totaling over 500,000 in 500 towns and cities thronged to the Prairie Farmer-WLS Home Talent Shows during the past 12 months.

Otis Stantz Interview

Bob Ripley

COLLEGES

Intercollegiate debates were arranged by the Chicago Kent College of Law and broadcast over WLS in cooperation with Northwestern, Chicago, Indiana, Marquette and DePaul Universities. Important national questions were argued.

CHEER

Cheer-dispensing appearances of WLS boys and girls were made at the U. S. Veterans' Hospital, Hines, Illinois; the Chicago Municipal Tuberculosis Sanitarium, and other hospitals throughout the Middle West. A show by Barn Dance stars in Lane Tech High School provided the milk fund for the Chicago Boys Club summer camp.

STATE FAIRS

The National Barn Dance was broadcast before great crowds of corn belt folks on the opening nights of both the Illinois and Indiana State Fairs. Dinnerbell Time was presented from Illinois, Wisconsin and Indiana fairs. Thousands crowded into Prairie Farmer headquarters to make first-hand friendships. Special broadcasts were brought from the Chicago Food Show, Chicago Automobile Show, Midwest Poultry Exposition, and, for the 14th consecutive year, the International Live Stock and Grain Show and National 4-H Club Congress.

COAST-TO-COAST

Many famous celebrities shared the spotlight with Uncle Ezra, Lulu Belle and Scotty, Henry Burr, Maple City Four and the Hoosier Hot Shots on the National Barn Dance. WLS entertainers are heard each week by listeners of over 60 NBC stations. Thus one of the largest network programs originates in the Eighth Street Theater hayloft.

(Below) Barn Dance Fans

RESPONSIBILITY

Placed in our hands is the vast power of radio, which touches the heartstrings and reaches the minds of millions. That power, and the responsibility that goes with it, would be too great for any man except for the supporting hands of a million friends and neighbors.

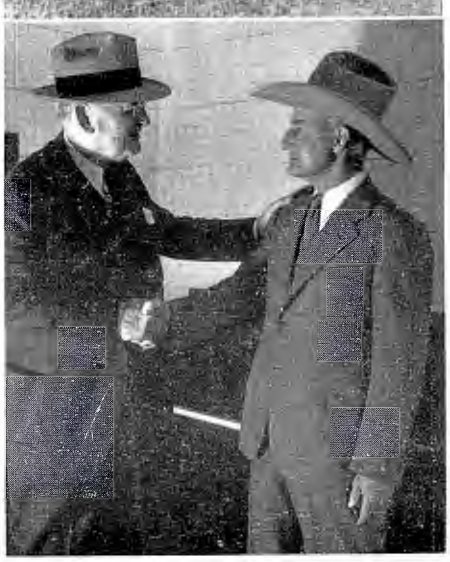
While it is common to say that the executives and the program staff direct the radio station, they in turn are directed largely by the listeners. Careful study of the million letters a year received by WLS gives us insight and understanding, so that we become actually a part of your lives. We are able to enter into your joys and sorrows, know your problems, share the happiness of your success.

There is always something mystic in this great work of radio. Far beyond the mechanical equipment of microphones, vacuum tubes, dynamos and rheostats comes the feeling that we deal with a spiritual thing. As we sense the heart throbs and the longings of our people, it is as if we walked on holy ground. We are humble in the thought that through us may flow the power to build lives, to lift communities, to hold high the light for the advancement of humanity.

You are an essential part of this work. We count on you.

BURRIDGE D. BUTLER,

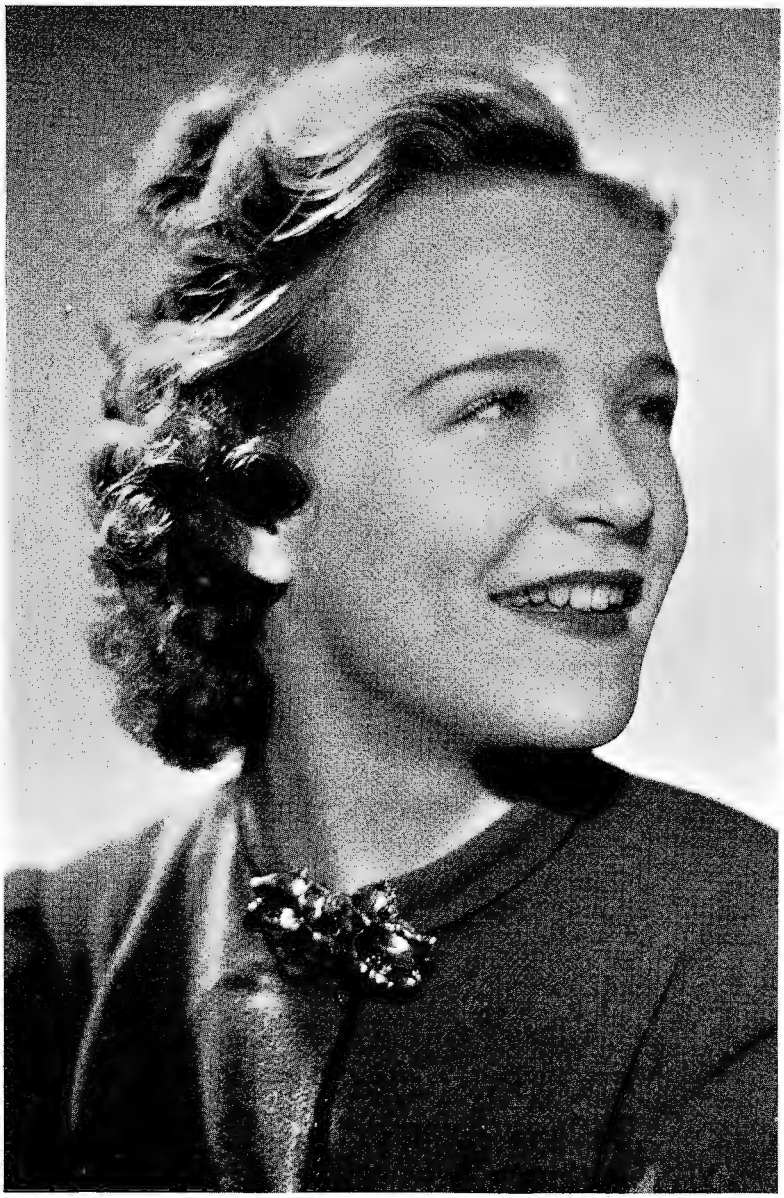
President, Prairie Farmer-Radio Station WLS



This picture of Mr. Butler on the opposite page was taken during the presentation of watches to Announcer Morrison and Engineer Nehlsen for their work in the Hindenburg disaster. Above, on this page, presenting a dinnerbell to the Agricultural Club of Chicago.

LULU BELLE AND SCOTTY and LINDA LOU

Special honor goes to this fine pair of youngsters, one of the top three in popularity according to votes of listeners. Lulu Belle, who was Myrtle Cooper, faced the microphone for the first time at WLS. Scotty, Scott Wiseman, came from North Carolina, and they met here. Linda Lou was born January 3, 1936. Lulu Belle was voted National Radio Queen in 1936. At right, a duet with Lieut.-Gov. Schricker of Indiana; a stick of gum to Gov. Horner of Illinois.



HOWARD PETERSON

You have enjoyed his organ melodies since Ralph Emerson went to Phoenix, Arizona, to play the KOY organ. Howard is a smiling, genial fellow, composer of many musical compositions. Spent his boyhood in LaPorte and Michigan City, Indiana. A veteran of many years, well liked in both radio and theater.

RALPH AND ELSIE MAE

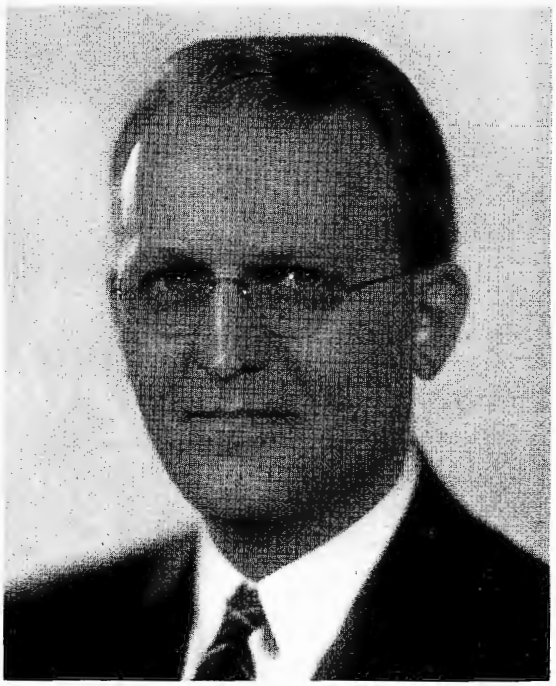
Here's a glimpse of the happy family circle of the Emersons, including the little cocker spaniel Tempo, selected and named by listeners. The two boys are Ralph Jr. (Skippy) and John Skinner. You will remember that Ralph and Elsie Mae were married in the WLS studio, where they were both organists. During this winter season they are at KOY.

THE BENTLEYS

Often you have seen pictures of Julian Bentley, favorite news reporter of the Middle West, but we are now privileged to bring you a picture of Mrs. Bentley. Julian grew up on a farm in northern Illinois, Mrs. Bentley in a rural section of east central Illinois. Now he brings news from all over the world, and she is an art director. Julian has rare ability to interpret the news.

GLENN SNYDER

The genial Manager of WLS is an active leader among radio executives, President of the Chicago Broadcasters' Association and a regional officer of the N. A. B.



WILLIAM R. CLINE

Affectionately known as "Bill", Mr. Cline, as Sales Manager, is responsible for the handling of commercial accounts on the station. His voice was once well known to listeners.

GEORGE COOK

Neither a singer, actor nor announcer, Mr. Cook still has a part in every program on the air because he pays the bills. He must find enough money to cover expenses.

HAROLD SAFFORD

The Program Director (below) plans and supervises all programs. To look at Harold you wouldn't think he had a daughter in her third year of college and a son completing high school. The Saffords also have two younger daughters. Under his direction is a large staff of writers and production men, as well as entertainers. In his rare moments of leisure, he plays the fiddle.

GEORGE C. BIGGAR

The Promotional Director (above) combines his South Dakota rural background with nearly fourteen years radio experience, creating programs for folks who keep their feet on the ground. Mr. and Mrs. Biggar have two sons and a daughter. Commonly referred to as our "idea" man. For vacations he likes to load the family in the car and drive, stopping to get acquainted at every radio station along the way.

THE PRAIRIE RAMBLERS

Photographed in one of their rare quiet moments, the Prairie Ramblers, above, are, left to right, Tex Atchison, Salty Holmes, Chick Hurt, Jack Taylor. Salty is the one with the trick voice.

Comedy seems to come natural to these boys, each with his own particular brand of fun. We haven't found anybody yet who could watch them without forgetting all his troubles in laughter.

. . . and PATSY MONTANA

Special honor goes to this group, selected by listeners as one of the three most popular acts on WLS. In their repertoire, cowboy songs, mountain songs, old-fashioned spirituals and side-splitting comedy. Four of them were born in log houses. Patsy, born Ruby Blevens, is a native of Arkansas. At the right, Patsy and her husband, Paul Rose. They have a daughter, Beverly, 2½ years old. Patsy not only sings cowboy songs, but has done a great deal of riding in rodeos. The group is heard regularly on Smile-A-While Time, 5:30 A. M. Tex Atchison is one of the few left-handed fiddlers known.

CONKLIN MANN

Although responsible as General Manager for all the many interests of Prairie Farmer and its allied institutions, Mr. Mann spends most of his time on the publication, now serving 340,000 rural homes.

ARTHUR C. PAGE

Known to listeners as conductor of Dinnerbell Time for six years, Mr. Page's time is chiefly devoted to editorial work as Associate Editor of Prairie Farmer and advisor on WLS station policies.

DAVE THOMPSON

Dave knows the middlewest like a book. Writes many important Prairie Farmer stories. Ardent photographer. Former director of WLS farm programs. Associate Editor of Prairie Farmer.

RAY INMAN

Director of Prairie Farmer's Art Department, responsible for layout of this Album, and creator of many comic cartoons in Prairie Farmer.

JOE BUMGARNER

Assistant Editor of Prairie Farmer (lower right) authority on poultry breeding and management. Graduate of University of Illinois.

ARTHUR McMURRAY

Director of Prairie Farmer Community Service. His department is responsible for hundreds of home talent entertainments, seen by half a million people the past year.

PRAIRIE FARMER STAFF MEMBERS

Lois Schenck, above, has often been heard on the air, and has attended hundreds of rural women's meetings. As home editor of Prairie Farmer she writes many feature stories, is an accomplished photographer. Below, Kathleen Thompson, assistant editor, is stationed in the Indianapolis office. She is in close touch with affairs in Indiana.

Orpha Han, tour manager, native of Indiana, formerly secretary in a county farm bureau office. Manages hundreds of tourists over thousands of miles and always keeps happy. Below, Gladys Blair, Junior Editor, former school teacher, thorough student of child problems. Receives thousands of letters from Prairie Farmer boys and girls.

THE KENTUCKY GIRLS

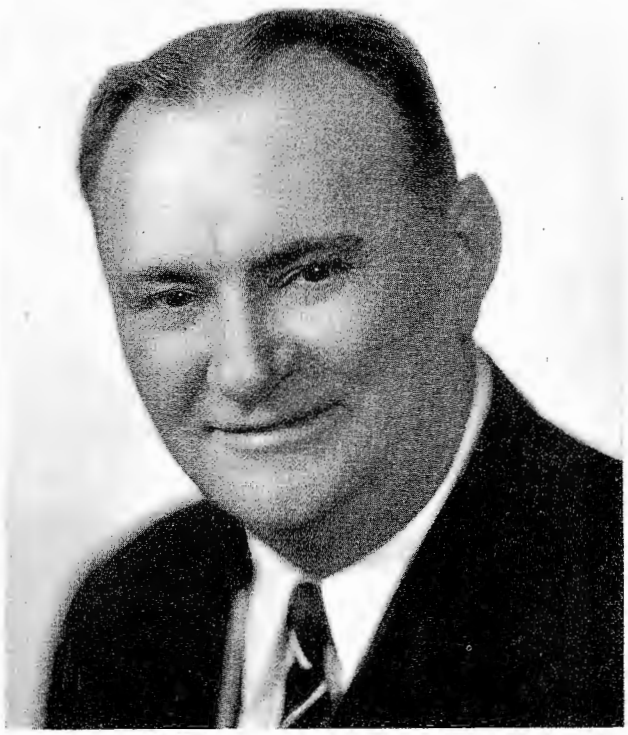
Jo and Alma joined the WLS staff in the fall of 1937. They sing many old mountain folk songs. They are sisters and came from Kentucky.

"POSSUM TUTTLE"

"I cum fum de bes," says Vance McCune, Jr., in his best Possum Tuttle style. Naturally became a minstrel man since his father, mother and sisters are all in radio work.

EDDIE ALLAN

Most of the time found at the information desk in the Little Theater of Prairie Farmer Building, Eddie always has a harmonica in his pocket.



ARKIE

Special honor goes to the Arkansas Woodchopper, chosen by vote of the listeners as one of the three most popular acts on WLS. Arkie came to WLS about eight years ago, having made his start in radio when he came out of the hills with a guitar and started singing in Kansas City. About seven years ago some of the boys found it was a lot of fun to make him laugh in the middle of a song, inventing the most outlandish stunts to accomplish this. Since then Arkie's laugh has been heard from coast to coast and he never knows what is likely to happen when he starts to sing. A real country boy, has really chopped a lot of wood, loves to go coon hunting, is an amateur weather prophet. Right, singing with his brother Pete.

PAT AND HENRY

Pat Buttram, above, uses his real name and his real voice. Henry Hornsbuckle, below, is really Merle Housh, and this is what he really looks like when he is a dignified announcer. Lately they have been having a lot of trouble getting started with their newspaper.

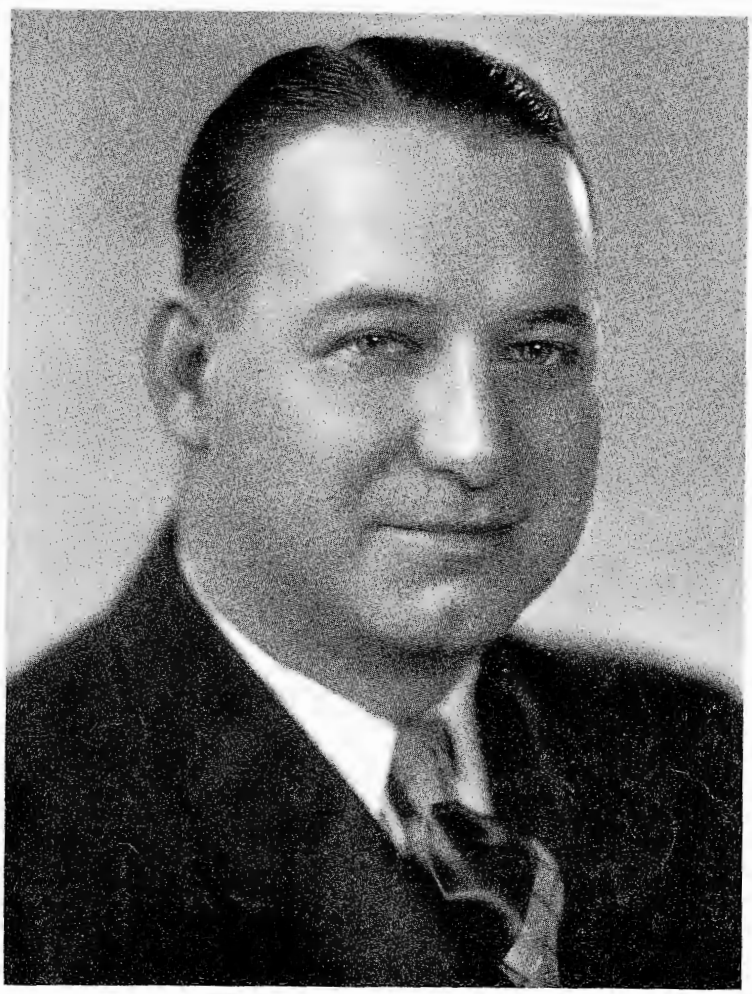
WINNIE, LOU AND SALLY

Changed since last year by the marriage of Marge Dempsey, this sweet singing group now consists of (left to right) Lucille Overstake, Helen Jensen and Eileen Jensen. Heard many times during the week and on Saturday night. Helen also plays the organ.

DEPENDABILITY

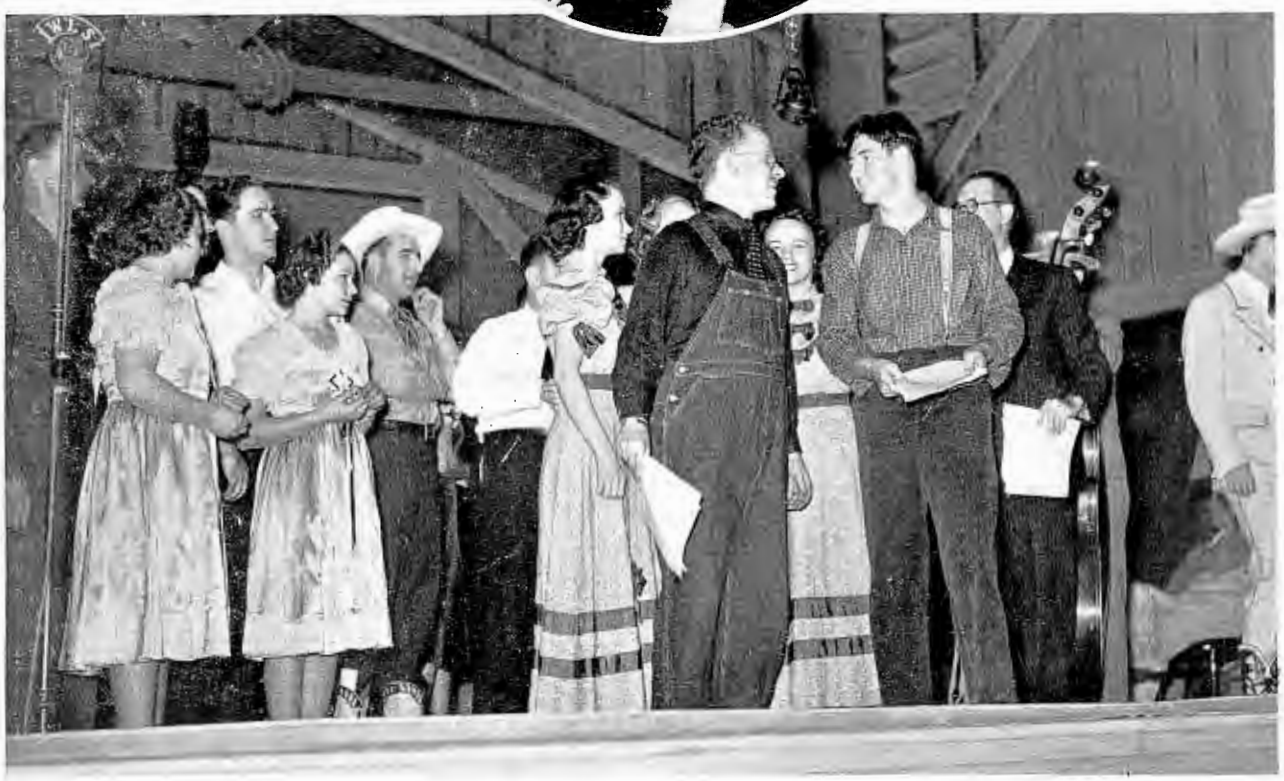
Around the studio the "production men" are those who have to see the program through and make it click. Al Boyd (top right) was photographed while bringing a soft-voiced youngster closer to the microphone. Tom Hargis, who also sings and plays minstrel parts, was feeling happy. Chuck Ostler (at the bottom) handles sound effects.

Chief Engineer Tom Rowe (below) is the calm, unhurried genius responsible for all the mechanical and electrical control. Directs a large group of engineers and operators. In radio technical circles, one of the top men of the profession.



WE VISIT THE BARN

Now 14 years old, the National Barn Dance has be
Saturday night program. The gaiety you hear is genu
part have a lot of fun. At the left, Joe Kelly, MC of
Below, Edgar Bill, former WLS Director, watches from
Director Harold Safford. Right, below, theater manag
bottom row, Deep Sea Bass Joe Parsons. The others,
stage or during the performance, you'll just have to
More than 600,000 people have paid admission in t



DANCE

come America's favorite
ine, for the people taking
the coast-to-coast show.
the wings with Program
er Charlie Lapka. In the
candid shots taken back-
figure out for yourself.
he past five years.

BUSY PEOPLE

John Baker (left) is a busy young man. Handles School Time daily, Everybody's Hour Sunday morning, in charge of special events, and often heard on Dinnerbell Time.

Check Stafford (below) handles Prairie Farmer Bulletin Board, meets visitors.

Dan Hosmer, character actor, usually heard in old man parts, writes several programs. Has a dozen "voices."

Edythe Dixon, experienced newspaper woman, handles station publicity.

THE NOVELODEONS

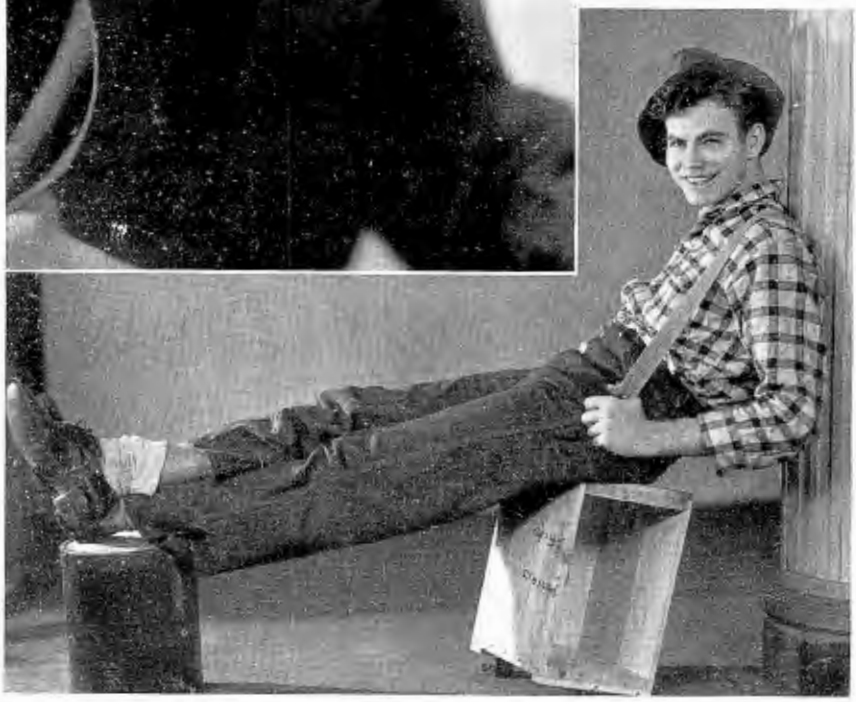
Otto and the Novelodeons, although highly skilled musicians, are always inventing comical new arrangements. Above, from left to right, Otto (Ted Morse), Zeb Hartley, Art Wenzel, Buddy Gilmore. In front, Bill Thall. Strange as it may seem, they are serious minded young men, Otto (little Genevieve) being most serious of all. He was formerly a school band director.

THE CHURCH QUARTET

Sunday morning listeners are well acquainted with these four fine young people, The Little Brown Church Quartet. They are: Lois and Reuben Bergstrom, Ruth Slater and Vernon Gerhardt. They have been heard for several years as part of the church service on Sunday mornings.

VIRGINIA LEE

As you look at charming Virginia Lee, (above) you may not know it but you are also looking at dear old Sunbeam, for this versatile young lady takes both parts. Native of the South, she is well qualified to write and interpret the interesting experiences of the Southern girl whose life she portrays.



POKEY MARTIN

He tells tall stories so convincingly that you almost want to believe they're true. Youngest of six children, 23 years old, born near Durant, Oklahoma, graduted in journalism from Oklahoma University. Came to WLS direct from college, after having local radio experience in Oklahoma. Studious, polite, and well liked by everybody. Real name is Donald Allen. Arrived in Chicago driving a cattle truck because he didn't have bus fare.

SOD BUSTERS

The Hoosier Sod Busters are so well known and well liked that little more needs to be said about them. They have developed harmonica and guitar music into real art. Sometimes use four or five harmonicas in the same piece. Standing, Reggie Cross; sitting, Howard Black. They have made hundreds of personal appearances.

THE WLS QUARTET

A new group, organized late in 1937, rapidly gaining favor. They sing the fine old melodies preferred by WLS listeners. Left to right (below) they are: Paul Nettinga, first tenor; Ken Stevens, second tenor; Robert Speaker, baritone; John Neher, basso. Talented young men, you'll like them better the oftener you hear them.

SONG AND PHILOSOPHY

At the left, the tall, curly-haired youngster who sings and yodels cowboy songs, promptly christened "Curly". A quiet lad with a pleasant voice and a touch of Southern accent, probably due to his having lived in Tennessee. Below, left, Aunt Em Lanning, often heard on Sunday mornings. Past 82 years of age, Aunt Em was graduated from college at the age of 69, learned to swim, skate and play tennis at 72, and at 80 took up a regular broadcasting schedule. She says life grows more thrilling every day.

All the men around WLS claim little Joy Miller as a sweetheart, but this picture makes it appear that Uncle Henry Burr is in the lead. Two sweet singers, both lovable characters, representing two different generations of music.

Below, the Four Hired Hands were feeling tricky when the picture was taken. They mix rollicking comedy with melody. In the picture left to right, they are Don Jacks, Tony Pacione, Ben (Blinky) Pigotti, Al Vlodek.

FIELD STAFF

Many members of Prairie Farmer's field staff, talented entertainers, have great times at "get-acquainted" meetings. The large group below is directed by Al Staas, and similar groups by Ted Renshaw (left) and Wm. Renshaw, Indiana manager. Directing all field activities is Mr. G. A. Holt, (right) Circulation Manager and Treasurer of Prairie Farmer Publishing Company. Member and official of the organization 29 years, Mr. Holt has uncanny knowledge of the Middle West, rare ability to select men, and is one of the men who determine basic policies for Prairie Farmer and WLS.

SOPHIA GERMANICH

Sweet singer, loved especially for her closing hymn on Dinnerbell Time. Last summer, married Bob McElwain of WLS business department, another romance of our station staff.

TRICK YODELERS

Caroline and Mary Jane DeZurik have lots of fun figuring out new kinds of chirps and trills for their yodel songs. They're always just as happy as they sound over the microphone.

PIANIST

Helene Brahm has scarcely ever spoken a word over a WLS microphone, but her flying fingers have brought beautiful music from the piano. Has been a member of the WLS staff for a number of years.

HARPIST

Margaret Sweeney plays the big golden harp, its appropriateness suggested by her name, her glistening golden hair, and the fact that she wears a shamrock once a year.

ANNOUNCERS

Heard earliest in the morning, Hal Culver, left, started in radio as a singer at WSM, Nashville, in 1929. His counselor was George Hay, the "Solemn Old Judge". Thirty years old, married, 6 feet 3 inches tall, star in basketball, track and tennis. Formerly on WMBD, Peoria.

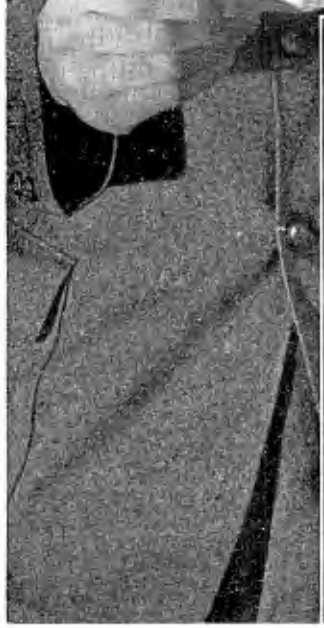
Jack Holden and Jolly Joe Kelly, below, are well known to all listeners.

Across the page, Ed Paul, pioneer in "man on the street" broadcasts, started at WKBB, Dubuque, in 1934. Famous for informal broadcasts at the Barn Dance.

Jack Stilwill, upper right, was program director of WIRE, Indianapolis before coming to WLS. Was a newspaper man in South Dakota, and has been on several radio stations.

Cy Harrice, lower left, a Chicago boy, student at Northwestern University. Serious-minded lad, always anxious to learn.

Bill McCluskey, lower right, started as a master of ceremonies on a personal appearance unit. Born in Scotland of Irish descent. His wife is Millie, one of the "Girls of the Golden West".



ROD CUPP

Roderick Cupp, more familiarly known as "Rod", left Oklahoma with Mrs. Cupp and 15-month-old Carolyn to seek his fortune in Chicago. Soon became a member of our production staff. A genius at keeping calm.

JOHN BROWN

Yes, that's 2-year-old Joan, boss of the Brown household. (Below) Even before John became WLS staff pianist, more than 10 years ago, Juanita was a member of the harmony team of May and June. Theirs was a real WLS romance!

CHUCK ACREE

Really Charles L. Acree — but "Chuck" to us. Mrs. Acree is wondering if 2-year-old "Chuckie" will show his dad's interest in collecting curious facts and stories. Now a WLS continuity writer, "Chuck" was once a junior tennis champion. He is particularly interested in humanitarian problems.

FRANK BAKER

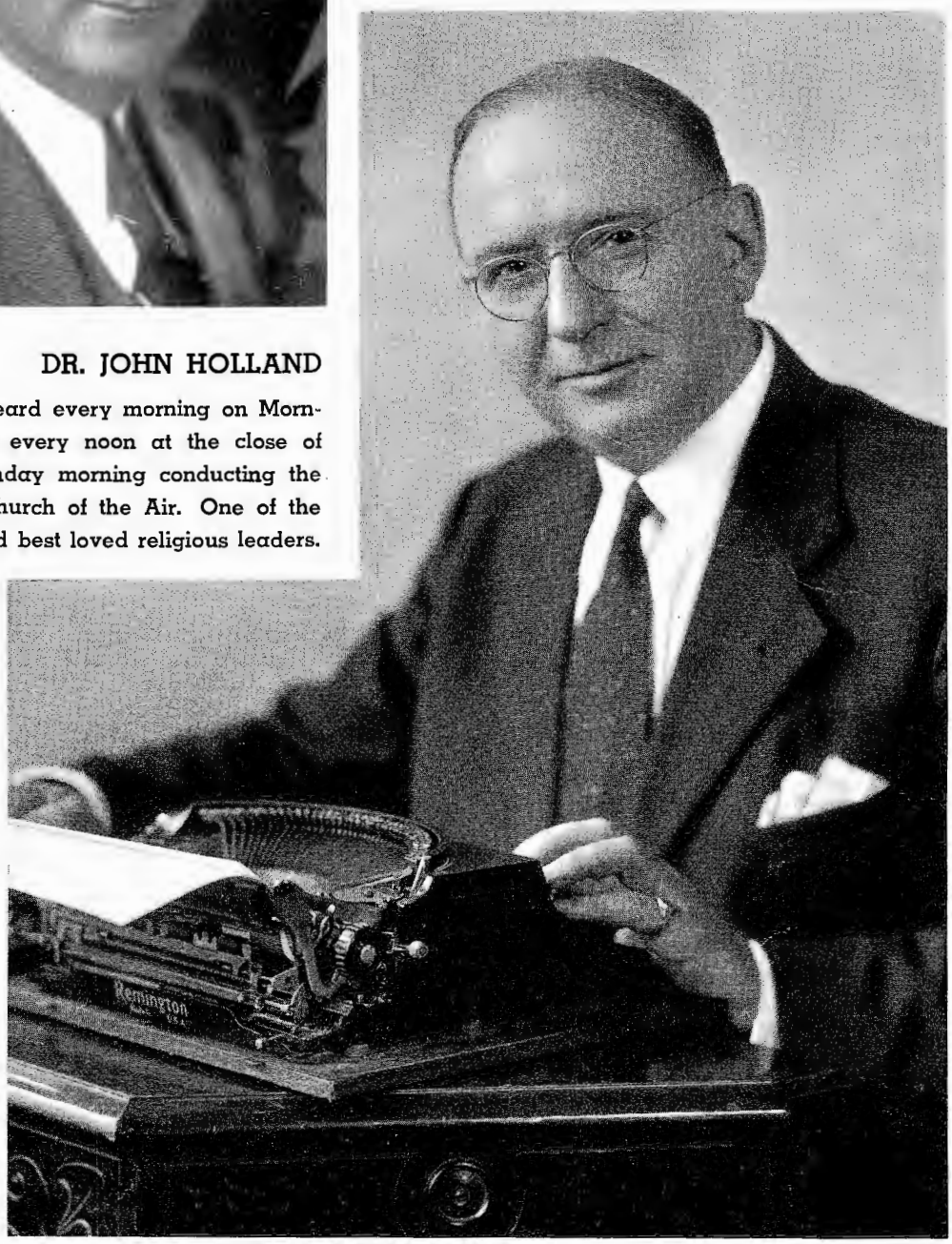
Frank Baker, WLS Continuity Editor, knows by looking at copy whether or not it will "listen well". (Below) No wonder Frank is anxious to get home after work every night —meet Mrs. Baker, 5-year-old Jerry and tiny Florence Patricia. When occasionally heard on the air, Frank has disclosed a rare charm of voice and manner.

WILLIAM O'CONNOR

Beloved Irish tenor who started out to be a lawyer but just had to sing. Heard every morning in the week as soloist on Morning Devotions, and on Saturday nights with Irish numbers on the Barn Dance. Was born and educated in Kansas.

DR. JOHN HOLLAND

WLS Pastor, heard every morning on Morning Devotions, every noon at the close of Dinnerbell, Sunday morning conducting the Little Brown Church of the Air. One of the best known and best loved religious leaders.



CHUCK, RAY AND CHRISTINE

Although these three have been on WLS for a long time, they were first combined into a trio in 1937. The fine quality of their singing has brought them high up in popularity with radio listeners. Thousands met them at Prairie Farmer's State Fair headquarters.

ROY ANDERSON

Most of the time a rising young banker, Roy sings a powerful baritone much liked by WLS listeners. Prefers big songs, like "Road to Mandalay."

TOM CORWINE

That assortment of noises Tom makes is even funnier than when he started on WLS years ago. He packs a lot of good philosophy along with his barnyard sound effects.

GRACE WILSON

It takes a lot of living and a lot of understanding of folks to sway a crowd the way Grace Wilson does. She loves folks, and is called "The girl with a million friends".

EVELYN OVERSTAKE

Little Maid Evelyn sings so softly and sweetly that you stand on tiptoe to listen. First known to listeners as a member of the "Three Little Maids" she is soloist to the accompaniment of the Hilltoppers.

THE HILLTOPPERS

A versatile group, the Hilltoppers are heard sometimes in rollicking comedy, sometimes in haunting Hawaiian style, sometimes in sweet and soft folk tunes. Left to right, Don Wilson, Tommy Tanner, Karl Hunt, Augie Klein and Ernie Newton. They sing several of their own compositions.

THE MAPLE CITY FOUR

One of the oldest quartets in radio. Starting at the corner drug store in LaPorte, Indiana, the Maple City, they knocked at the door of WLS when people were still listening on crystal sets. They have been heard on all sorts of programs from five o'clock in the morning until midnight. They have sung "Old MacDonald's Farm" thousands of times. Their repertoire ranges from uproarious stage comedy to soft, sweet melodies. Recently served a term in the movies, but came back untamed, and are heard every Saturday night on the Barn Dance.

RITA ASCOT

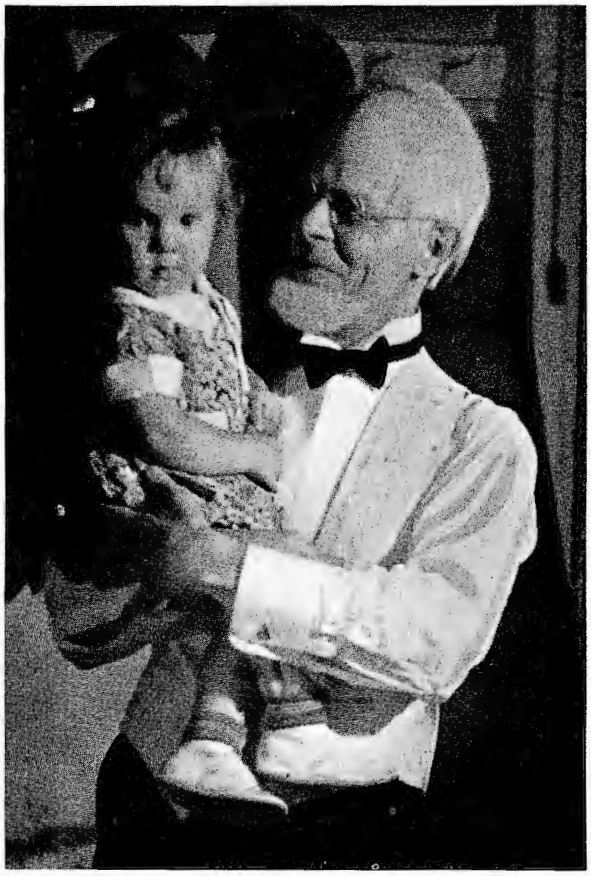
This tiny radio actress, only 4 feet, 10 inches tall, weighing 87 pounds, has the ability to portray character parts that take hold of the heart strings. Starting her dramatic work as a high school girl in Grand Rapids, Michigan, she has been heard in many parts on WLS programs and on the NBC network. Once barred from a baby show in Aurora, Illinois, her birth place, because she had won so many prizes.

HERMAN FELBER

The maestro of the WLS Orchestra began giving public performances as a very small boy. He has won many honors and those who know him intimately say it is because he works constantly. Plays tennis in his spare time, if any, and for vacations likes to go fishing. In spare moments he is always to be found with a violin tucked under his chin, running up and down scales, keeping those nimble fingers in training. The Felbers have two children.

DON AND HELEN

Outside the studio they are Mr. and Mrs. Lincoln Bush. Natives of Chicago, they both attended Austin High School, began their radio career on WJJD, appeared on a number of eastern stations, and joined the WLS staff in April, 1937. Helen plays the piano and they both sing. Their friendly songs have won many friends. Don's birthday comes on February 12, hence his name "Lincoln". He is 6 feet ½ inch tall.



NETWORKERS

Uncle Ezra (Pat Barrett) dresses up in his Sunday "bib and tucker" to have his picture taken. Most of the time, though, he runs around in his shirt sleeves. Dressed up or not, he's always ready for a romp with a youngster—he's devoted to children.

Lucille Long (lower extreme left), lovely contralto featured on the network hour of the WLS National Barn Dance, is a sweet singer of old-fashioned songs.

Since he now owns a couple of farms himself, Pat Barrett attends a good many farm events. At the National Dairy Show he struck up an acquaintance with this prize-winning Guernsey.

Verne, Lee and Mary (upper right) blend their voices in sweetest harmony on the National Barn Dance programs.

When he hears those Hoosier Hot Shots play, Uncle Ezra forgets all about his creaking joints and does a fancy bit of old-fashioned stepping around.

SCHOOL TIME

Prairie Farmer-WLS is proud of School Time, its daily program for boys and girls in schools of the Middle West. This program aims to make a worthwhile contribution to broader education of young people. Started experimentally in February, 1937, it is listened to regularly each day by children in more than a thousand schools in Illinois, Wisconsin, Michigan and Indiana.

Every Monday Julian Bentley reports on current events. On Tuesday, Ruth Shirley (upper left) conducts the music appreciation program. Every Wednesday the program of Business and Industry takes listeners to such places as a steel mill (upper right) or the largest oil refinery in the world (bottom left).

On the program Touring the World, each Thursday, one of the speakers was Javier H. Cerecedo (left), who told about Puerto Rico.

At the Adventurers Club in Chicago, one of the members, George Gleason, introduced John Baker to the stuffed gorilla.

MARY WRIGHT
JANE TUCKER

In thousands of homes Mary Wright and Jane Tucker are well known.

Jane Tucker (below) has two children, David, 8, and Anne, 6. She has had a brilliant career as a dramatic director, and as a high school teacher of dramatics and French. Appeared on four other radio stations before coming to WLS in 1937. At home, loves to cook, and is always adventuring with new recipes.

Time to close this program now, so we'll just say:

"YOU HAVE BEEN LISTENING TO WLS, THE PRAIRIE FARMER STATION, CHICAGO."