

# The Broadcast Engineers' Journal

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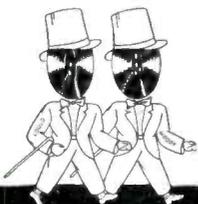
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# THE BROADCAST ENGINEERS' JOURNAL

Volume 10, No. 11



November, 1943

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This Journal is interested in purchasing technical articles relating to broadcasting, recording, or television. Address the Editor.

## THE BROADCAST ENGINEERS' JOURNAL

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Chicago Councilman George Maher stresses a point to smiling NABET President Brown and skeptical Chicago Chapter Chairman Schnepfer at banquet. Cleveland Chairman Harold Brandt looks on.

trol, at 3:15 A.M. "WENR PROGRAM COMING IN FINE RECEPTION GOOD CU NEXT WEEK." . . . and this happened in 1943.

Don Howser, WMAQ transmitter has reported "no news" for several months now. Do know that E. G. Squires was at the NABET banquet 'cause he was seen. And since I've heard WMAQ on a wave length of 447.7 meters during the day and nite at home will conclude that A. D. Aldred, Bob Fitzpatrick, Don Howser, Clark Lonnie, R. A. Mingle and Al Shroder are alive and active. More news (?) next month.

Jim Dougherty (of the Philly fighting Irish) and now with WLS, had a black-eye as a result of a street car inci-



When "Convention" is mentioned, the first thought usually turns toward the lighter things. Careful perusal of Convention minutes will disclose that there is also a "heavy" side. (No relation to the ionosphere by the same name!)

dent and has witnesses. Madison Avenue super-speed trolley with magnetic brakes stopped suddenly, Jim's feet stayed with the car but his upper end kept moving forward. Result? Jimmy fell flat on his face and glasses. Also had nasty cuts from glass imbedded in cheek. Luckily eye not injured. Also, luckily Irish cop took Jim to hospital and wouldn't let him sign a thing for the trolley company's adjuster, after learning Jim's last name.

Andy "Devine" Shomaker, NBC Maintenance, during

spare time actively operates Training School Servicemens Center co-operatively with neighbors near 83rd and S. Chicago. With pin-ball machines being tilted, juke boxes running continuous and floor lamps going out, Andy is kept busy. Equipment has been borrowed and promoted and, of course, everyone donates their spare time for FREE.

"Burr" Whyland, WLS, had a fire in his apartment recently that destroyed the living room furniture due to a short in the wiring. May have been due to the multiplying waltzing mice that Ed and Vera raise. This story via Jim Dougherty.

Faintly, wedding bells will tinkle during December for Andy and Olive Anderson, Ralph and Marguerite Brooks, Church and Elanore Corliss, George and Frances Maher and Jim and Ellen Platz. Remember THAT day, boys and girls?



"Good work. Sukimoto, but I'm afraid the minutes of the NABET Convention won't do us much good!" (This may explain the disappearance of certain of the minutes!)

### CHICAGO'S MAJOR PAUL CLARK HEARD ON RECENT NBC ARMY HOUR

Bill Cole turned the speakers full-up in Chicago's NBC Control Room Sunday afternoon, October 24th, when Supervisor-on-leave Paul Clark m.c.'ed the New Caledonia pick-up for the Army Hour as MAJOR PAUL CLARK.



Major Paul Clark

Born Friday, May 13th, 1905, in Duluth, Minn., Paul enlisted in the Navy after graduating from high school and served six years with an honorable discharge as Chief Radioman. Came with NBC during 1929, enlisted in the Army Signal Corps and commissioned as Captain April, 1941. After a few months at Fort Monmouth, N. J., sailed from Frisco, September of the same year and has been "touring" the South Pacific since.

Mrs. Paul Clark now working at the Army Air Base near Sioux City, Iowa, loaned us this photo of Paul taken at Guadalcanal.

## Over *HERE*-a Knock at the Door means a Neighbor Calling

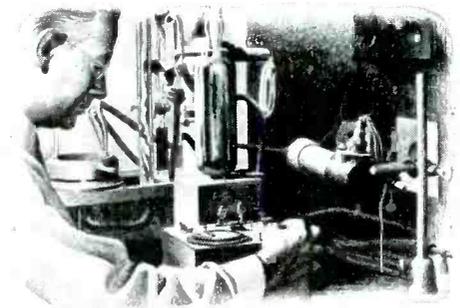
In Axis countries, that knock might be the Gestapo—and death, if you had been listening to American news from Algiers or British news from London or the underground radio.

In America, no one cares if you listen to enemy stations—their propaganda is often good for a hearty laugh. But for unbiased war news, we tune to our own stations. We know that we will hear every important news break that won't help the enemy.

Radio has done much to make Americans the best informed people on earth. Through the ingenuity and skill of American radio manufacturers, fine-quality sets have been brought within the reach of everyone.

While today American radio makers are devoted solely to the cause of Allied Victory, important new techniques developed under stress of war will bring you finer radios and other electronic products when the war is won.

*Your purchase of War Bonds will help supply American fighting men with the world's finest equipment.*



Pioneers in the field of Radio-Electronic Research, RCA Laboratories are proud of the privilege of serving America's great radio industry in its united war against the Axis. When the day of Victory comes, RCA, through basic research, will continue to work hand in hand with American manufacturers for better and more useful radio equipment in our peacetime world.

# RCA Laboratories

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By Rex Coston

**A** YEAR AGO Sam T. Liles was transmitter supervisor at WPTF. Sam, or "poker-face" as he was called by some, is now Chief Radio Man Liles of the United States Navy and is stationed somewhere in Africa.

Due to his long years of experience it isn't surprising to learn that Sam hasn't changed his line of work at all—he has just changed employers. In a letter recently received by Henry Hulick, Jr., Chief Engineer, Sam relates that he is running a transmitter for the Navy "in a villa which the army took over from a pro-German Italian Frenchman. The villa has a swimming pool, a bowling court, oranges, lemons, figs and bananas and an extensive rose garden. There is a tennis court next door at the villa of M. Sidoti.

"The French neighbors treat us very nicely, inviting us over occasionally to suck up a few glasses of wine. Last night I had some 15 year-old Bordeaux wine. I had to trim the trees of M. Schibler, our nearest neighbor, because the branches were almost touching the transmission line. M. Schibler wept great salty tears, but his charming daughter assured us that the tears were due to patriotic fervor or some such hocus-pocus. She brought out the wine, a very nice collection of native varieties. The French drink

more wine than they do water. The water is not very good anyway.

"I have four first class radiomen, a mechanic and a cook. The four first class stand a continuous watch and now that everything is running smoothly, I do practically nothing.

"Frank Higgins," also a former WPTF transmitter operator who joined Uncle Sam's forces about two years ago, "popped up over here not long ago. I have reason to believe he may be in the Italian mixup at present, although he may have gone home on another escort. He is on a tincan as listed in the August issue of the 'Signal'", a WPTF staff publication, "only Frank is a first class radio man now and is recommended for warrant officer."

This letter to "Skipper" Hulick reminds us that there have been two blessed events in the families of the engineering staff during the past few months. It's a boy at the Hulicks'. A five pound bundle of Raleigh Royalty, Henry III, ushered in by the old bird on August 26. King Henry III has a queen sister five years older.

Mr. Stork has not slighted the home of J. Guy Beard in the least. Guy, who is a transmitter operator and local NABET chairman, had a family of two until little Edith Joyce came along August three to make it three.

In the past few months there have been several new additions to the 'PTF engineering staff. They each have interesting records, which must necessarily wait until a later date to be told; they are: Tommy Sox and Joseph W. Stephenson at the transmitter. Donald S. Moye, A. Hunter Wall, W. P. Seagraves, and yours truly are in the control room.

Frank Colvert and Lawton Metcalfe, both control operators, have left the fold to join the armed forces—both went to the army. Transmitter operator William J. Speed recently joined the transmitter staff of Raleigh's Mutual outlet, WRAL.

It may also be of interest to note that the WPTF-NABET contract was renewed for another year with no substantial changes.

#### Sports Director Turns Singer for Uncle

WPTF sports director Phil Ellis and transcription clerk Frank Lilly were both inducted into the Navy on the same day, and are both at the Great Lakes Navy Training Station. Phil is really doing the unexpected—he is a choir boy in the recruit choir. A radio sports announcer joins the Navy and become a bass soloist!! p.s. Neither one has K.P.



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# DENVER NEWS . . . By K. N. Raymond

**W**ITH the "Frost on the pumpkin" and colder weather starting here in the mile high city, the skiers and hunters are getting itching fingers and feet. However everyone has the same perplexing problem, how to get to their favorite haunts on the 3 gal. per. Has anyone a good horse and buggy?

Chairman Thompson feeling that Denver has needed something to tie the many engineers in the Rocky Mtn. region together in closer relation, suggests that the chapter establish a section of IRE. This would provide a clearing house for matters pertaining to the radio engineers, also it would give every one a chance to get better acquainted with his fellow man. In furthering this idea a representative of each of the local stations was invited to attend a luncheon of NABET. Those attending were Dan Garton KVOD Blue affiliate, Ralph Sargent KLZ CBS affiliate, M. Sharp KFEL Mutual affiliate, and H. James of KMYR. The matters of securing the required membership to make up a section was discussed and each of the representatives agreed with the NABET members that we should go ahead with the idea.

Commander Stan Neal (MCD) and "Bottom Polisher" Blake (SE) have dry docked their skimmer for the winter. The boys had a very fine sailing season. They finished second in the annual regatta. Nimrod Kahle (SE) came back from his vacation with a story how his superior stalking ability netted him a cow elk. However by the grapevine we get another story. Seems that the red head was asleep under a tree enjoying a pleasant dream of how he

was going to drop his game with a 400 yard bullseye shot, when a noise aroused the mighty hunter and—there stood the elk just waiting to be taken home. Kahle is also indulging in some horse trading tactics in ye old fire arms maybe he should carry a symbol of his shrewd profession with him—3 GOLD BALLS!!

Harold Austin (TE) leaves KOA employment for a job with an electronic equipment co. for duty oversea—Good luck Harold, don't get your feet wet!! J. Turre (TE) is now a military replacement at the 50K watter. G. Dutton (TE) has dusted off the cobwebs on his ham transmitter. He has decided that this is the time to do that rebuilding. No h-u-r-y DUT take your time. W. (Oilcan) Nesbitt (TE) has mastered a technick of human oiling surpassed by none, in fact everyone gives him the wide berth whenever he gets that certain gleam in his eye. V. Andrews (SE) is now taking a ball bat with him when visiting Camp Hale he uses it to keep the WAC at a safe distance. Perry Peregrine (CRS) has gone into training for the forth coming skiing season. The daily jaunts to the studios (about 6 miles) and a mountain hike when the gas allows are putting the biscuits in fine fiddle.

Gentleman farmer G. Carpenter (SE) intised some of the SE out to the little farm'e to squeeze some good cider those partaking of this nonacholic venture were M. Hall (SE), A. Blake (SE), and S. Neal (MCD) all the boys wives went along to make sure they didn't drink more than they made. Just heard the cider has gone HARD!! D. Dobbins (TE) is a new man coming to KOA from KMA wel-

(Continued on Page Nine)

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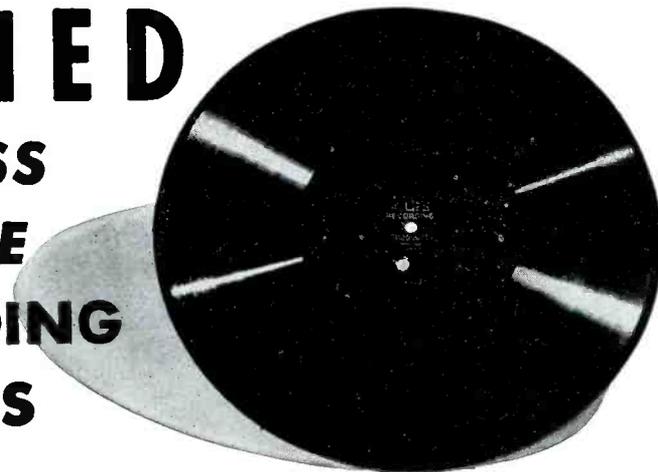
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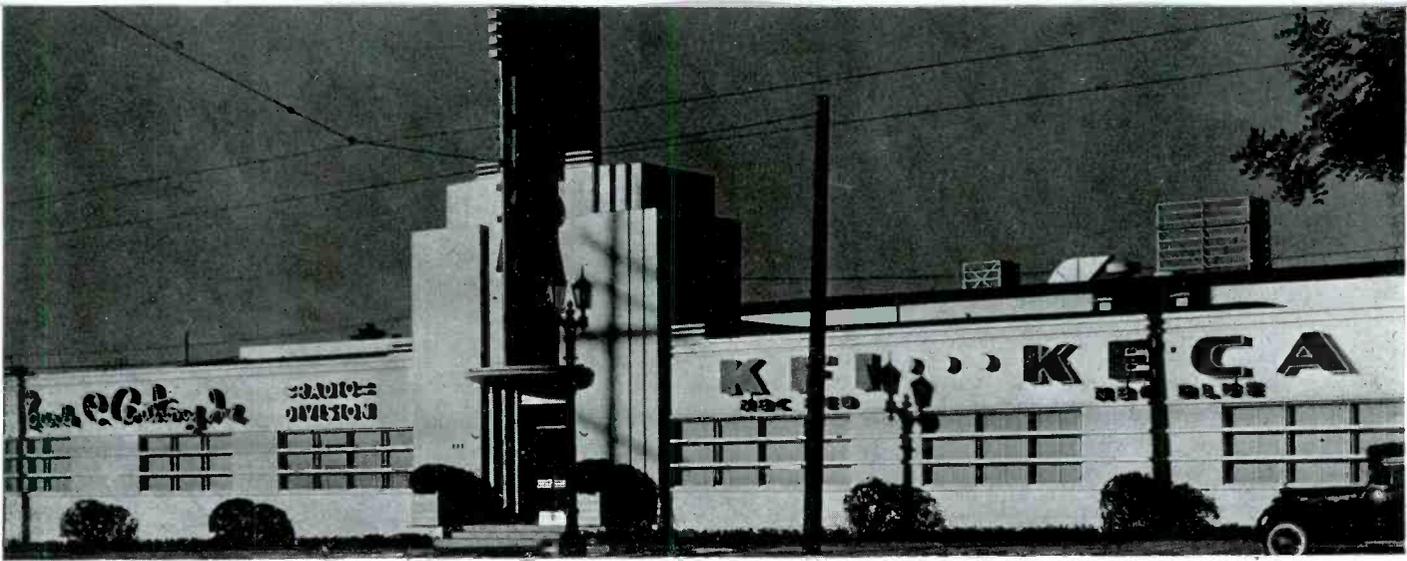
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## Los Angeles News By H. M. McDonald

**E**LECTRICUTED when 6,000 volts passed through his body, Robert Milton Merrill, 37, a Press Wireless radio engineer, was found dead at their Playa Del Rey transmitter station the night of September 11th. He was alone at the station and apparently had been adjusting the transmitter when he came in contact with a high voltage circuit. He had been with Press Wireless about two and a half years and prior to that had been an RCA marine operator. A short time ago Orley O. Sanner met death in a like manner, though probably from only 220 volts, at KGPL, the police broadcast transmitter here, and, further back, Hubert W. Salfisberg was jolted into eternity at KVOA Tucson when he accidentally touched a high voltage lead.

Lt. Commander Harold S. Christensen, formerly at KFI, stopped over here a few days recently while enroute from Boston, where he is now stationed, to San Diego. "Chris" is one of the few men entitled to wear the badges of both Army and Navy pilots, having been a pilot in both branches of the armed service. He was also an airlines pilot for a long time, and has been in commercial radio since 1920.

Walter H. Radtke, formerly at Mutual's KHJ here and KDB Santa Barbara, is now a 2nd Lieut. in the Army, and at San Francisco awaiting transfer. He was at WIBW, the Capper station in Topeka, for many years, and previous to that was an operator on Great Lakes boats.

Lt. Norman E. Leonard, former KFI-KECA S. E. M.E., is back on the Coast from Ft. Monmouth and down here on a short furlough from the Personnel Replacement Depot at Pittsburg. The party in his honor at Maintenance Supervisor Ray Moore's hill-top home lasted until 5 a.m. Nuf said.

Thorton Chew, formerly at W6XAO television station here, and now a Lieut. U.S.N., was here from the East a few days ago.

Three widely-known engineers, Rex Bettis, formerly of KFI-KECA, Charles Johnson formerly of KNX, and William Lindsay, Jr. of General Service (W.E.), have returned from Boston and are engaged in one of the most complex of M.I.T. projects at the Gilfillan plant here. Lindsay was formerly chairman of the I.R.E. here.

Cal Applegate, formerly supervisor at KFVB studios here, is with OWI in San Francisco. He recently returned from Alaska where he did some installation work for OWI.

Ray Walling, ten years at KFI Transmitter and now in the Navy, has been raised in rank again and is now a Com-

mander. He recently returned from Washington to San Diego where he is District Material Officer. Before coming to KFI he was with RCA for ten years, at KPH, KSE, and the San Pedro-Wilmington Marine Maintenance Depot.

Recent visitors to KFI-KECA Studios included Harry Puccetti, formerly at KALW San Fran. and KLX Oakland, and now with KPO San Fran.

Vern Milton, ex KGB San Diego, is with Raytheon at San Francisco. He recently became a proud papa too.

Eddie Ruggles, ten years in Los Angeles broadcast stations, most of it at KPLA, KMTR, KMPC and KFVB, is now Assistant to Les Hewitt, Chief of the Pacific Network Division of OWI's Communications, at San Francisco. Hewitt was formerly Chief Engineer at KFVB.

Field trips and life classes hold the interest of some of the shutter-bugs at KFI-KECA studios these days but others are cashing in. Supervisor Wilbur Alexander sold his 35mm camera and bought War Savings Bonds with the proceeds, and S. E. Willard Guimont took a nice profit when he sold a Lieca for \$300. Floyd Everett says his Revere is "not for sale, but—well, what'll you offer".

September meeting of the Los Angeles Section of I.R.E. the first after the summer recess, was attended by 82. Membership increased about 100 this past year and now numbers 481.

If you contemplate making a field-strength survey we suggest that you contact the police, and explain to them first, rather than later. Much less embarrassing!!!

John Signor, formerly at KFRC San Francisco and KGU Honolulu, is now at OWI San Francisco.

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## DENVER NEWS (Continued from Page Eight)

come to the gang Dobby. Victory gardeners at the transmitter have just finished their counterspie activity on the garden patches. After all who wants to find a sabatour in his—CORN. Mr. Carrier (CTE) announces that the transmitter cooling has been revised and is working in tip top shape.

J. Glieson a former engineer of WLW honored the studio boys with a visit on his stop over here while on his way to Camp Ord. Chairman Thompson back from the convention, says the big city has cooled down this year seems that he took in a choir rehearsal to pass away the time. After all the music was uplifting!

Happy Thanksgiving NABET members—

# Invisible Microphones

By Bert Pruitt

ON SUNDAY, OCTOBER 31ST, WTAM'S ace comedian, Gene Carroll, "Jake and Lena," got off to a flying start on his new program sponsored by The Spang Baking Company.

This auspicious start was a direct result of a potentially good program being perfected through the general use of imagination. A generous use of imagination sometimes leads one off the well-beaten trail that is travelled by the multitudes who seem to be satisfied to do as their forefathers did.

Everybody, fortunately, does not have that point of view. If they did, we would still hear the hiss of carbon microphones being hurled at us through "goose neck" loudspeakers.

Some time ago, Bill Spang, General Manager of The Spang Baking Company, Gene Carroll, comedian, who takes the parts of "Jake" and "Lena", and Vernon Pribble, Manager of WTAM, went into a kilocycle huddle. Out of this huddle came a flock of ideas. They began putting those ideas into practice when they rented the Little Theatre over at Cleveland's Public Auditorium. One of the major ideas pertained to microphones. Would it be possible to broadcast from the stage of the Little Theatre with invisible microphones?

"It would," answered WTAM'S chief engineer, Eddie Leonard, with crossed fingers. He uncrossed his fingers at 4:00 PM, Sunday, October 31st, when the first program

ended. The show had been a success with invisible microphones. The house was packed.

Newspaper reporters from the Cleveland papers were in the audience. It's easier to fool a suspicious wife than it is to fool a newspaper reporter. They have seen enough of radio broadcasting to know that you cannot broadcast without mikes. They decided to investigate and lost no time getting onto the stage after the broadcast ended.



Comedian Gene Carroll poses with his sponsor, Bill Spang

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"What goes here?" They were speaking to Manager Pribble. "Well," answered our beaming manager, "We had an idea and we decided to give it a try . . . How did you like the show?"

"Wonderful," chorused the reporters, "But where are the microphones?"

"Look!" Our manager's smile widened.

The reporters looked and there sat two of the meekest microphones you ever saw. They were down there keeping company with the foot lights.

The reporters wanted to know if those two mikes picked up the orchestra too. Their eyes following the upward sweep of Manager Pribble's hand which came to a sudden stop when his forefinger pointed at two inductor microphones.

"Well concealed," agreed the reporters, gazing at the two mikes in the overhead curtains.

"Jake" and "Lena" are not strangers to the Cleveland radio listeners; especially those who have eight or ten years of dialing experience to their credit. This likeable pair skyrocketed to local fame a few years ago. Gene Carroll was teamed with Glenn Rowell at the time and few were the listeners in the Middle West who didn't follow the



This picture does not begin to do justice to the spectacular stage decorations. The stage is decorated to fit the occasion. The occasion at the first broadcast was Hallowe'en. That's why you see that witch camping atop the pumpkin above the Spang sign.

daily kilocycle capers of "Gene and Glenn." They were sponsored by the Spang Baking Company, the same company now sponsoring "Jake and Lena."

How, you may wonder, did the first program pack the house? Well, it's like this; The Spang Baking Company issues tickets to the purchasers of their products. The purchaser merely presents his ticket at the Little Theatre and is assured of seeing a program full of surprises and prizes. Oh yes, you would be surprised if you could listen

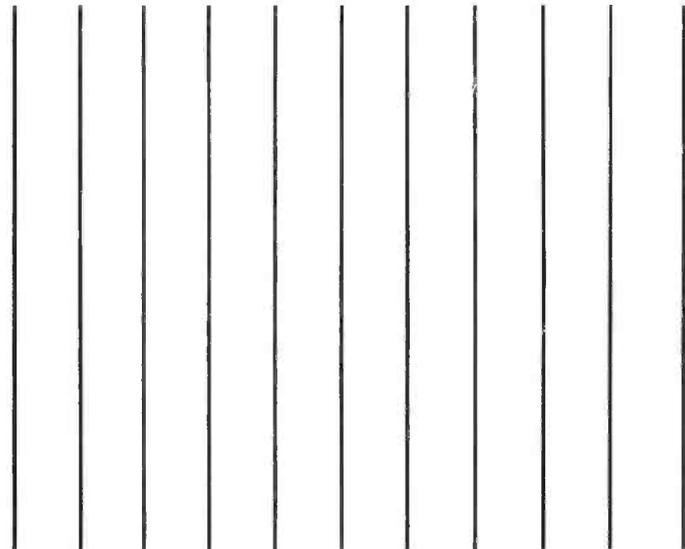


Left to right — Norman Seigel, Radio Editor of the Cleveland Press; Gene Carroll with his Jake and Lena costume, and Charles McClure, Pharmacist's Mate 2/c. U. S. Merchant Marine. Charles McClure competed with 300 crooners at the Palace Theatre, to win the Frank Sinatra contest. Winning this contest won him a crooning spot on the opening Jake and Lena show.

to the favorable comments in regard to the absence of conspicuous microphones.

The entire program is done without script, with the exception of a short opening and closing commercial announcement. This seems to be a definite asset to the program.

We, here at WTAM, expect "Jake and Lena" to go places on the Kilocycle Highway.



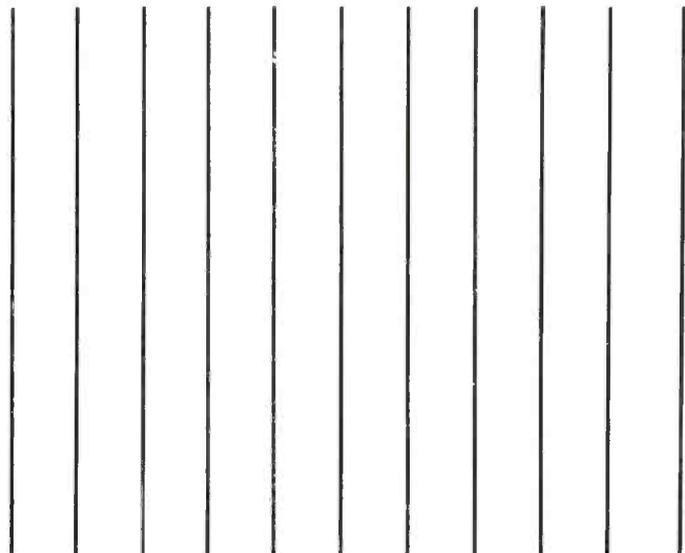
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# CLEVELAND



By Bert Pruitt

**G**ILBERT SELDES, author and director of television programs for CBS came from New York to address the Greater Cleveland Radio Council. The meeting was held October 28th in the Higbee Auditorium and Mr. Seldes' subject was: "How to Listen to Radio."

Cleveland Program Directors Pinky Hunter "WHK-WCLE," Dave Baylor "WGAR", William B. Levenson "WBOE", Hal Metzger "WTAM" and Edward N. Palen "WJW" attended the meeting.

\* \* \*

Bill Stern, NBC's ace sports reporter, was in town Saturday, October 30th, to do the play-by-play reporting of the Navy-Notre Dame game at the Cleveland Stadium. Eighty thousand fans witnessed the game and any stadium that seats 80,000 fans replaces a lot of sod. The Cleveland Indians play part of their home games in this stadium and the flingers consider it a pitcher's paradise. What the league's leading sluggers think is left to the imagination of the reader.

\* \* \*

Ed Stolzenberger and his charming wife, Millie, helped Cleveland's likeable Chapter Chairman, Harold Brandt, paint the town in that well known color that doesn't look so bright when old Sol comes up over the eastern tree-tops come next day. They did their painting over at Herman



Chairman Brandt, left, and Journal Mogul Stolzenberger, right, dig into some important Journal matters, while Millie, the Journal's girl Friday, takes notes

Pirchner's exclusive Eldorado Club. That, incidentally, is where WTAM's Ten Year celebrators swung a mean paint brush a few months back. And we would like to add that Herman Pirchner is now wearing the uniform of Uncle Sam at Fort Hayes, Columbus, Ohio.

\* \* \*

If you should visit the Cleveland Airport do not become unduly alarmed if you see a flock of bombers sweeping in at low level. The bombers are Uncle Sam's Flying Fortresses and they're likely coming in from Lockbourne. These planes are the famous B-17's and Lockbourne, Ohio, is the place where the pilots receive the advanced training necessary to pilot the "Queen of the Clouds."

The planes and pilot instructors, as a rule, are veterans

of the battlefield. One of the Fortresses (Tojo's Jinx) now in service at Lockbourne has ten Jap flags painted on her nose. Lockbourne is near Columbus, Ohio. Less than two years ago the present site of Lockbourne was typical woods and farm land.

Speaking of Flying Fortresses: An ambitious mathematician has figured that a B-17 burns an average of 200 gallons of gas an hour. The amount varies, depending on speed, load and altitude. The range of variation is from 140 to 240 gallons per hour. It is estimated that the daily gasoline consumed at Lockbourne would be sufficient to last an A-book holder 500 years. Which leads us to wonder how many monthly A-book rations it would take to lift the B-17 off the ground?

It would have been an indication of wisdom if Hitler and Hirohito had done a little research work in the Cleveland Library before they sent their war dogs on the trail that led to World War No. 2. Any clerk at the Library could have handed either of the above mentioned trouble makers a book that would have told them the Great Lakes handle more tonnage in 7½ months than the combined tonnage through the Panama, Suez, Manchester and Kiel Canals. The combined annual movement of cargo freight through this combination of canals averaged 70 million tons yearly from 1920 to 1934, inclusive. The annual movement of bulk freight on the Great Lakes averages about 100 million net tons . . . A maximum of 160 million tons was reached in 1929 before the effects of the world-wide crash were felt.

That brings us to the size of the Great Lakes. When you think of a lake, you usually visualize a body of water you can navigate in a row boat. You aren't thinking of Lake Superior when you have that trend of thought. Lake Superior, according to page 73, is the largest body of fresh water in the world . . . 31,200 square miles of water surface! Lake Huron is second largest with 23,800 square miles. Lake Michigan 22,450, Lake Erie 9,960 and Lake Ontario, smallest of the five Great Lakes, has 7,240 square miles of water surface.

Jumping from page 73 to Washington, we find that our Government spent 27 million dollars improving the St. Mary's River. This includes locks, entrance channels and improvements. The Panama Canal cost about 378 million dollars. The Suez set the taxpayers back to the tune of 140 million bucks and the New York Barge Canal cost 150 million dollars. What the Kiel Canal cost is chicken feed when compared to the green backs Hitler is costing the taxpayers in Naziland, and we'll end this paragraph by saying Pontiac, the great Indian Chief, was a regular traveler across Sandusky Bay long before Hitler learned that the bristles from a hog's back are imported from China to make paint brushes.

It is 2,200 miles from the head of Lake Superior to tidewater in the Gulf of St. Lawrence . . . Lake Erie is the oldest of the Great Lakes, say geologists, and the word "Erie" is a corruption of the Iroquois Indian word "Erige", meaning cat or Panther. The Erie Indians, who once controlled the southern shore of Lake Erie, proudly proclaimed themselves "People of the Cats." In 1645, they came out

(Continued on Page Thirteen)

# From San Francisco

By Bob Shover

**M**ARINE JACK BERG, son of Maint. Supr. O. A. Berg, home on furlough from Washington University where he has been studying chemical engineering. He was in to meet the NBC and BLUE staff with Oscar proudly escorting him around.

Bob Brooke-Hlyd Engineer, well remembered for his ardent boosting of Southern California, visited San Francisco on his way to a new and more important job as Lieut. J. G. in material at Mare Island.

C. F. Rothery to the National NABET Convention at Chicago, despite repeated transportation problems, and sending daily telegrams reporting to his constituents.

Farmer Jefferson Cr. Supr. feels qualified to set up as a consulting oculist after equipping all his chickens with glasses. Jeff corresponds regularly with Lt. Cmdr. Ed Callahan in the South Pacific with whom he had done so many field programs before Cal left S. F. NBC for the Navy. Cal's letters have proven extremely interesting to us who have had the privilege of reading them.

San Francisco had a slight earthquake on October 25, 1943.

F. L. Barron S.E. won prizes for his victory garden and appeared as an authority on an NBC Coast Agriculture program.

C. T. Stevens S.E. is reputed to be an authority on sweater girls—purely scientific study, of course.

Andy Mitchell R.E. was not content with an enjoyable vacation at Carmel, so proceeded to Reno where he was quickly relieved of excess cash in Reno's famous games of chance.

The new cut in gas rationing to three gallons per coupon has hit the out of town boys quite hard.



Carl Schuknecht is back in the Studio group after a long illness.

Don Hall M.E. has been over in the Recording Dept. the last six weeks covering part of the vacation period and spends every minute of his spare time working on the gear and from all reports everything is in top notch shape.

Larry West, Ex NY-SF-NBC Eng. is now Recording Supr. over as KSFO-KWID Studios.

S F Radio Recording going strong, and cutting approx. 2,000 sides a month and J. Alan O'Neil wearing out a half dozen pencils a week on reports and orders.

Sam Melnicoe S.E. in his glory at the dials of the FITCH BANDWAGON from S.F. Studio A on October 31.

Russ Buttler S.E. back from vacation and off to a KAY KYSER PGM. at Fort Ord, California.

## CLEVELAND (Continued from Page Twelve)

second best in an athletic contest with the Iroquois. This no proud Cat could stand, so the Cats began a war which eventually ended with complete destruction of the Cat People.

Let's let the Cats rest in eternal sleep in their Happy Hunting Grounds . . . The clerk hands us another book and we read that Eliza of "Uncle Tom's Cabin" crossed the ice flows of the Ohio River to reach Sandusky. Thousands of escaping slaves travelled the same route before her. Sandusky was the northern terminus of the famed "Underground Railroad" along which escaping slaves were hurried to Canada and freedom.

We now leave Uncle Tom's Cabin and jump to 1928. The automobile has replaced the stage coach and the modern lake freighter has replaced the old sailing ship. 1928 finds the Sault St. Marie locks opening and closing to the tune of 108½ million bushels of wheat being transported from the upper to the lower lakes. A fancy bit of figuring reveals the fact that it requires in the neighborhood of 25,000 acres of farm land to produce a cargo of wheat and the railroads bringing it to the ship's dock require about 30 trains of 65 cars each to fill the ship. If you baked this cargo of wheat into bread you would have approximately 5 million loaves and the number of people it would take

to eat that much bread before it molded is as much a mystery as "Who killed Cock Robin?"

There were 308 ore boats plying the waters of the Great Lakes in 1938. The number of ships that have been added to the 308 is a secret Hitler and Hirohito would like very much to solve. It is no secret, however, that our government has built additional locks at Sault St. Marie. That the ore going through those locks will help to knock Hitler and Hirohito colder than a frozen herring is no military secret. And Cleveland, a leading city in the field of changing iron ore to pig iron, is doing its share in furnishing a continuous flow of metal that, in all likelihood, is giving Hitler and Hirohito headaches they didn't dream of before the production might of the United States got going in full force. So to Hitler and Hirohito we say: "You'd better watch out or the Cleveland pig iron will get you!"

## F.C.C. REPORT NO. 73 (RULES AND REGULATIONS)

Oct. 15, 1943. Public Notice 71199

The Commission on October 12, 1943, ordered that Regulation 3.107 relating to the ownership of more than one network serving substantially the same area by a single network organization, which had been indefinitely suspended, should become effective on April 12, 1944.

# Digest of Talk by Miller McClintock

*President of the Mutual Broadcasting System, before the Electrical and Radio Merchandise Industrial Group Session of the 30th National Foreign Trade Convention at the Hotel Pennsylvania on Wednesday, October 27, 1943, at 11:00 A. M.*

By Herman G. Berger

**A**MONG the many revolutionary developments of the war are two which have a profound effect upon the world to come. They are aviation and radio communication. These are pointed out for special impact for very good reasons. Both of them have a bearing upon world peace and harmony and upon the facility of world trade relations. It should, of course, be recognized that these two factors of peace and trade are inseparably woven together.

As one advertiser has so graphically said, no point in the world is now more than sixty hours away from your home airport. This means in essence that so far as individual contacts between people of various races and in various parts of the world are concerned the entire globe today has become practically a neighborhood no larger in time and effort of travel than were many of the states themselves that formed our original colonies. This means also that inevitably in the post-war days the intimacies and contact between people in remote parts of the world will bring them closer together in their understandings and peaceful relationships.

The impact of radio, which has expanded so greatly in international communication during the war period, lies in the fact that it brings all parts of the world within a twelfth of a second of any other part of the world. It opens opportunities for intercommunications and common understandings between people such as no other mechanism has ever offered, and thus adds its force to the infinite variety of personal contacts afforded by aviation and the opportunity for almost continuing daily contacts between peoples. From this may well come some very profound effects upon common culture, common ideals and common understandings of the brotherhood of man.

In recent weeks there has been a great deal of discussion about so-called basic English; that is, the comparatively few basic words necessary for the use of the English tongue. It is not at all

inconceivable that these basic English terms used in broadcasting, even in foreign languages, should shortly become known so that people everywhere would have a useful understanding of a common language.

It is unnecessary to emphasize to a group of this character and understanding that this would create great forces for a peaceful community of mankind and would tremendously facilitate the development of world trade in an ideal balance according to the most effective productive capacities of all parts of the globe.

Lest these assumptions seem to be theoretical and visionary, I should like to point out that at the present time, for example, the Mutual network has a daily worldwide round-up, in cooperation with the foreign war correspondents of the Christian Science Monitor, in which we regularly hear the voices of our correspondents from a multitude of points all over the globe each week with the same facility that we would hear from them if they were in the same room. A switch from a voice in Moscow to one in Chungking or in Cairo is as instantaneous and simple as the lifting of a telephone receiver.

Battle fronts in so many farflung places have necessitated the establishment of an international system of radio communication for military purposes far more elaborate than that which existed before the war. There is no question but that, if materials were now available, commercial interests themselves would add further to this expansion of a detailed global network of radio facilities.

Incidentally, you may be interested to know that there are two principal technical ways of throwing radio messages across great ocean areas. One is by so-called shortwave broadcasting; that is, where the message is spread out for all to pick up who have suitable sets, and the other method, in principle, is known as "point to point," where the message is sent in a very narrow beam directed specifically to a single receiving station. This message as trans-

mitted may, indeed, be garbled in such a manner so that no one other than the authorized receiver may understand it. The station receiving the point to point message unscrambles it and then re-broadcasts it by telephone lines to other stations or sends it by regular broadcast or by shortwave to the receiving sets of individuals.

Each method has its own peculiar adaptability according to the character of the work being done. I should also point out that there is another method of broadcasting and that is by recording the messages and sending them by airplane or other methods of transportation to various parts of the world where they may be broadcast locally, just as electrical transcriptions are played by stations in this country.

From the standpoint of furthering our own cultural and trade interest in the future peaceful world, it is imperative that we now develop not only the facilities for world broadcasting but that we also arrive at certain definite concepts as to the policies which are to control such broadcasting. The Axis countries, long before the war, had a very highly developed propaganda system of broadcasting. This, of course, was for the purpose of converting people in all parts of the world to sympathetic attitudes toward the Axis countries and toward the theory of government represented by them. The United Nations at the present time individually and together are engaged in this type of educational broadcasting, both to the other United Nations and to all of the other people in the world.

There is no question that such official governmental types of broadcasting are useful and perhaps necessary in war times. It is apparent, however, that they have certain very definite limitations in building the kind of world economically which we hope may exist in the post-war period. In the first place, officially controlled government broadcasting is apt to be dull and not so accurately attuned to the interest of listeners as it would be if it were competitive busi-

ness programming. No further proof of this statement is needed other than the comparative interest values of British broadcasting under government control and that which is made available to the American people through business practices.

The American system of independently owned and operated stations serving their local needs and affiliated with the four great network operations competitively operated and supported by the competitive advertising activities of free business has provided the United States with a richness and variety of radio programming incomparably better than that which could be conceived under any system of government propaganda operation. Furthermore, the exclusive use of global radio in the post-war period by governmental agencies would shut off completely the tremendous opportunity which radio offers for the opening of world markets.

Radio because of its capacity to cover great areas instantly, provides a controllable advertising medium which can reach all of the potential markets anywhere in the world. To fail to use this instrumentality of international trade would be unfortunate from the standpoint of the rehabilitation of world economy, to say nothing of the effect which it would have upon the maintenance of low living standards in great areas of the earth's surface.

We have proved in this country, through competitive business and the instrumentality of advertising in all forms, that desires and ambitions can be created by telling people of the good things available for them. By so doing, we create ambitions and they, in turn, produce the necessary individual and mass energy to acquire these good things. This is the only solid foundation upon which our present standard of living rests in this country. If we want people to be free from want, we must inspire them to work for and to demand by their earnings those things which make high standards of livelihood.

What I am proposing, therefore, is that in the post-war world American radio should take that same leadership in the world that it has upon our own continent; that it should provide the facilities for global broadcasting, and that it should solicit the interests of American business people, both for their own profit incentives and the other objectives involved, to support this type of international commercial programming.

(Continued on Page Sixteen)



## To a Submarine, a Fish's Grunt Sounds Like Enemy Propellers

WASHINGTON, Aug. 19 — United States submarines turning corners at ten fathoms or so have pulled up in surprise and wonderment at hearing such raucous sounds as "Honk, such ra-beep, beep!—G-r-r-r!"

The men with the earphones who listen to what goes on while their craft is alighting through the briny deep often confuse these noises with the hum of enemy propellers, and signal for a quick stop. But the eerie underwater traffic noises often are

The Fish and Wildlife Service of the Interior Department has reported to its chief, Harold L. Ickes, that fish are noisy.

"Fish," said the Fish and Wildlife service in a formal report, "actually grunt, purr, drum, grind their teeth and make a medley of other sounds that create strong underwater vibrations even when inaudible on the surface."

The service, aided by the Navy, has made a series of recordings

of fish noises which are being drummed into the ears of submarine "listeners" so that they will know the difference between an ichthyological burp and a Japanese propeller.

"The Navy experts," said the report to Mr. Ickes, "obtained their most surprising results from the toadfish, a common species of the Atlantic Coast known for its ugliness and its bad temper. Although advised by Fish and Wildlife Service biologists that the toadfish is an important sound producer, the investigators were unprepared for the volume of its voice, which they said compared in intensity with a steamboat whistle."

"Fishes capable," the report went on, "of making drumming, grating or grunting noises are found both in fresh and salt water in all parts of the world. Whether fish use their voices to attract the opposite sex, as a feeding call, or to express general contentment like a cat's purr is not known."

Over land and under sea, Presto Recorders have their ears glued to Sounds . . . pick them up and play them back so Sailors, Soldiers and Aviators may know who's there—friend or foe! • As in peace, so in war . . . if it's a noise Presto will get it—faithfully and realistically.

# Presto Recording Corporation

NEW YORK 19, N. Y., U. S. A.

World's Largest Manufacturers of Instantaneous Sound Recording Equipment and Discs

# Talk by Miller McClintock

(Continued from Page Fifteen)

The Mutual Broadcasting System has been pleased to take some small leadership in this field through the acquisition of a great network covering the entire Republic of Mexico, and we are moving now to spread this communication system of commercial programming throughout the entire Western Hemisphere. We are not asking for government aid, but intend to support this hemispheric broadcasting strictly on the basis of sound business and profit motives.

You may ask how people in far-distant parts of the world, not now provided generally with radio receivers, will be able to respond to these riches of programming. The answer is comparatively simple. In many backward parts of the world today group listening is a common practice. Scores and hun-

dreds of the local citizens stand about single loudspeakers conveniently located. There were no privately owned receivers in the United States thirty years ago and anyone who had said then that today 33 million families, or the great majority of families in the United States, would have radios in their homes would have been thought a fantastic dreamer.

If enough people in the world are given an opportunity to hear the kind of programming normally provided by business supported radio, we may be certain that in one way or another they would find the means to provide themselves with the necessary listening apparatus. Indeed, for that matter, I can think of few better ways in which the interested governments could secure the peace than to dispense some of their largess in terms of listening facilities.

There should be opened in one form or another, therefore, a tremendous market almost immediately after the war for the world sale of radio apparatus of all forms and character, with

particular emphasis upon the high-efficiency individually receiving sets that can be sold at comparatively low prices.

Over and above all of these considerations, however, must be that of the stability and peace of the world, for upon this international trade in all of its forms must rest. Wars and rumors of wars are destroyers of trade. I would suggest, however, that trade itself is the greatest of all stabilizers.

People live peacefully together in their individual communities because they have common economic interests. They support each other. They enter into daily contracts which are mutually profitable. One does not seek to destroy his supplier and his customer. So far as world peace is concerned, I should much rather predicate it upon a satisfied customer who is in the habit of buying frequently the commodities which we manufactured and which are sold to him at a fair price than I would to predicate world peace upon all of the most noble expressions of a global philanthropy.

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by GEORGE F. MAEDEL, A.B., E.E.

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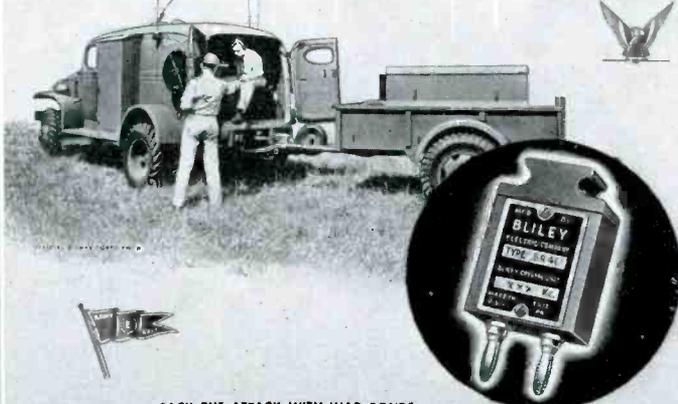
### BLILEY CRYSTALS

#### RIDE WITH THE SCR-299

Built by **hallicrafters**

ONE of the outstanding achievements in wartime radio transmitter design is the SCR-299. Serving equally well as a mobile or stationary radio station, this now famous equipment is doing a real job on our battle fronts.

This war is run by radio. The vital importance of maintaining reliable communications necessitates the selection of quartz crystal units that are accurate and dependable. Bliley Crystals are engineered for service—they are used in all branches of military communications and are, of course, supplied for the SCR-299.



BACK THE ATTACK WITH WAR BONDS

**BLILEY ELECTRIC CO., ERIE, PA.**



Photo by Joe Conn

## New York News By George F. Anderson, Jr.

**T**O BEGIN WITH, we will jot down a few of the recent happenings here in New York. There have been quite a few changes made here and among them is the transfer of genial Bill Kelly, SE, NBC to the Empire State Transmitter to operate WNBT and W2XWG. Bill has been on days for years now and is one of our better known Engineers. So now instead of watching a VI he will be watching an Oscilloscope draw pretty pictures.

Another Transferee is Maurice Kamke SE BLUE, who is transferring to WJZ transmitter (to observe what causes the breakers to open?)

We have just been compelled by threats of physical violence to include the fact that Andrew J. (Andy) Waddell, who for the past few months has been vacation relief in MCD and prior to that in Maintenance has now joined the lounging division as a studio engineer..

Edward Gundrum, who also has been vacation relief in MCD this past summer, has now returned to the Maintenance group. Eddie is an old timer with NBC and is well liked for his knowledge of what causes a VI to go off scale.

Ogden Bowman of MCD has rejoined the studio engineers after a year or so of MCD work. Being the junior member of MCD, his transfer was caused by the return to MCD of Jerry Sellars.

It is with deep sorrow that we report the death of Jon Larson, Chief Radio Engineer of the Coordinator of Inter-American Affairs, who was drowned on September 14, 1943, while on vacation.

Jon left the field engineering department of the National Broadcasting Company to accept the position of Chief Engineer of the CIAA, where he instituted a program of technical surveys which proved very helpful in coordinating the shortwave facilities that serve South America.

Jon was well known here at NBC for his many excellent field pickups from all points of the globe.

On behalf of NABET and Jon's many friends we extend deepest sympathies to Mrs. Jon Larson and family.

Visitors to NBC by past and present NBCites include George Shields, WEAJ, who has added a few pounds and looks as if life has been very agreeable to him.

Herbert Florance W/O, USNR, formerly of NBC studio, dropped in for a brief chat and informs us that he is beginning to see the country. He is stationed in Washington, D.C., and has made several trips to various sections of the country on behalf of the Navy Radio Division. He

also relays the fact that Merle Worster W/O, USNR, former Blue SE, is stationed in Miami, Fla.

Ens. Harry Grelck, USNR, former SE NBC, has finished his indoctrination course and is now in Philly at the Navy Yard and is in charge of secret radio installations. We hope to see Harry if he comes to NY for a visit, but till he does we are content to know where he is.

Ens. Victor Bary, USNR, is stationed at the US Naval Air Station, Clinton, Okla. Capt. Charles Grey, AUS, former NBC SE., also dropped in for a very short visit, however, your correspondent did not see him. He was reported to be looking very military and happy.

In a letter to Joseph Silva, SE NBC, Pete Narkon, who recently transferred to Hollywood, he tells that Sil Carranchini formerly of New York Recording, and now in Hollywood, also has had another BLESSED EVENT. However, said letter is not available and the details regarding said baby are lacking, so all we can say is that Sil now has another youngster and will be passing out cigars.

### H-O-T F-L-A-S-H

TED KRUSE, SE NBC, announces that on October 29, he will become Pvt. Theo. Kruse AUS. Ted passed the entrance exams with flying colors and accepted the offer of his UNCLE SAM to join him in his work.

Ted will be missed here in New York where he has spent many years with NBC, he is also known by NABET members for his work for this Journal.

Raymond Swanecamp, SE NBC, who is known as the Swanni of NBC, is on a short leave of absence to be realigned and rewired (for Sound). His IF's are now properly peaked and all his bypasses checked for proper capacity and he will soon be back here reading the VU meter as before.

Lieut. Donald Ewart, USNR, dropped into NBC for a very brief visit to say hello to the lads. Don has spent the better part of the last two years in Washington and he expects that before long he will be leaving the USA for a visit somewhere abroad.

### In the Mail . . .

I was a little worried the other day when the duck hunting season opened as I was expecting a visit from the Stork. Fortunately, no over-zealous hunter mistook the Stork for a mallard and the Stork came through unscathed. The bundle was a new daughter, born October 19th, and will be christened Karen Irene. This makes me Low Man on the Family Totem Pole as my wife and two daughters will be an unbeatable triumvirate. My sole consolation, of course, will be the Beardsley Ruml version of the Ides of March; the pleasure of course is incalculable. —H. L. Byers.

# WTAM Approaches 21st Birthday

By Bert Pruitt

**U**P UNTIL the time one reaches the glorified age of 21 he's inclined to puff out his chest like a strutting peacock each time another year goes by. By the time he reaches 30 the strut becomes less obvious. He becomes as evasive as a wistful widow by the time he reaches 40.

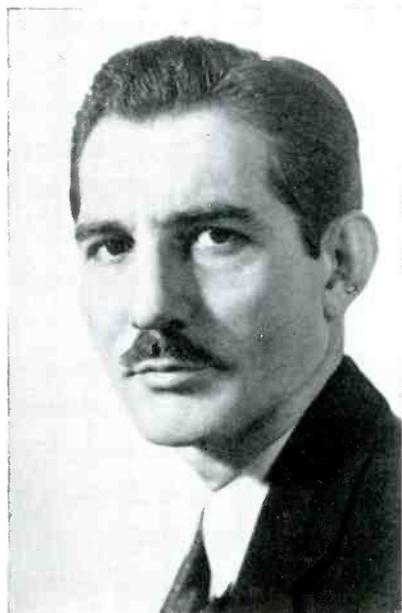
Therefore, when we proudly boast of approaching our 21st birthday here at WTAM it must be remembered that we are no different from anyone who proudly looks forward to the day when he can tip his hat and say: "Look pal, I'm no longer a child!"

Twenty-one years ago some of us weren't knee-high to a grasshopper. Those who were, probably remember

how difficult it was to shove a pair of feet through a pair of trouser legs that tapered down from the hips like inverted funnels.

We had no intention of getting our feet entangled in a pair of 1923 pants when we started this story, but inasmuch as we have our feet half way through we might as well shove them on down the channels of an out-styled era.

Now that we are properly dressed, let's go out to the Williard Storage Battery Plant in Cleveland, Ohio. It is 1923 and over there by that small building, sprouting an



Vernon H. Pribble

antenna, stand S. E. Leonard and Russ Russell. They are laughing as they talk, but due to this off-shore wind, we will never know whether they are discussing tank circuits or the prospects of rain. We could stop that conversation quicker than a frog can lift a fly from a lily leaf. All we'd have to do would be go over and tell those fellows they'll be working for NBC by the 16th of October 1930. They, in all probability, would ask: "And who is NBC?" And we would explain that NBC is a coming Radio Broadcasting Company that will be formed in 1926. You, however, know more about that than we do, so let's let NBC surprise Leonard and Russell 7 years hence.

The late T. A. Williard, President of the Williard Storage Battery Company, realized that radio was a coming thing back in 1920. He decided to do something about it. An infant was born. This infant was a puny little rogue christened WTAM. Little did anyone suspect that this fragile bundle from ether heaven was destined to thrive on a diet of sustaining and commercial programs, a diet composed of the ingredients of everything from hillbilly to opera, amateur to the classical, livestock quotations to stratosphere balloon flights, and last but not least, the normal

diet of peace times to the rationed chow of a second world war. For a bird's eye view of this amazing transformation we must go back to the Williard plant where the infant is still in the diaper stage.

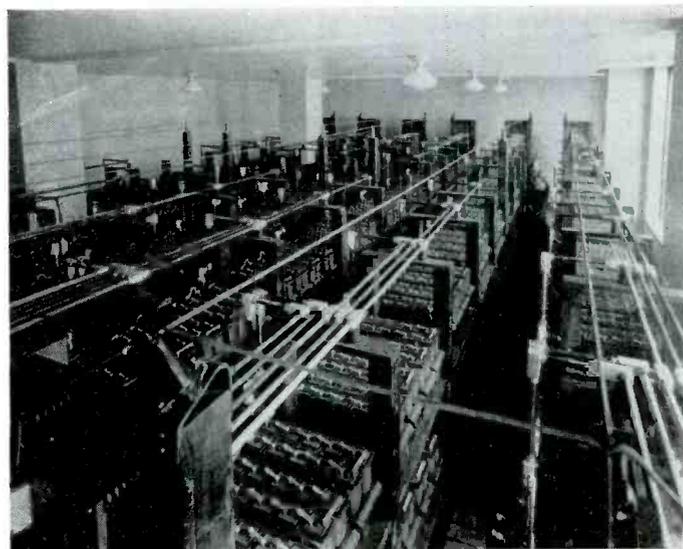
Chief Engineer S. E. Leonard, his assistant Russ Russell, Ross Plaisted, J. J. Francis, John Disbrow, Alvin McMahon and Barney Puritt are the original WTAM'ers. To say that they have filled a few storage batteries would be somewhat like making the statement that there have been Fords in Detroit, Mich. S. E. Baldwin is the station manager and if he reads this he will more than likely come to the conclusion that I write my paragraphs up-side-down.

Guy Lombardo, Kay Kyser, Sammy Kaye and many other nationally famous radio personalities once heard the infant yowls of WTAM.

S. E. Leonard and J. J. Francis tell of a hectic ride they took out St. Clair Avenue one night with Guy Lombardo. Side curtains flapped, the radiator froze, the motor stopped and they didn't tell each other good night stories.

Statistics, we have learned, from trying to struggle through them, encourage the reader to go to the movies. Inasmuch as the Broadcast Engineers' Journal is not published to plug the Movie Industry, we will shun statistics like an NBC announcer shuns a Columbia microphone.

The thermometer indicated that WTAM was running a slight temperature in 1926. Owner Williard diagnosed the case as Growing Sickness. A consultation was held with



10,000 volts of storage batteries!

Chief Leonard and his assistant Russell. All three agreed that the Union Trust Building might prove to be the correct answer to the impatient infant that was ready to don short pants. The move was made and the youngster's strength increased overnight. An increase from 2500 to 5000 watts! WTAM was a precocious child back in those days. His precocious quirk came from the fact that he got his power from seemingly endless racks of storage bat-

teries. 10,000 volts of them. 10,000 volts of storage batteries would make grandfather think he is precocious, especially if he got his whiskers shorted across them.

We now dip into the pool of statistics to fish out one revealing statement; WTAM was the highest powered station operating its transmitter entirely from storage-battery-power.

With a change to the new environment the youngster developed an appetite for richer food. A program department was formed to supervise this daily venue. Commercials increased . . . daily demands for larger studios became louder. This kilowatt child was feeling his oats!

The Cleveland Electric Illuminating Company became the second owner of WTAM. The change in ownership was made in May 1928. John Royal, later to become an NBC Vice President, became Station Manager. Modern studios were built at East 6th St. and St. Clair Ave. Carpenters and bricklayers worked day and night out at Brecksville, Ohio to complete the Transmitter building which was the latest in design. Upon completion, it went one of the first 50 K.W. transmitters to take the air in the U. S. The child had passed the adolescent stage.

In December 1934 Vernon H. Pribble came to Cleveland, from Chicago, to manage the future destinies of WTAM. Those heavy figures on the black side of the ledger prove that Mr. Pribble knows how to make the ether cash register click. The clicking soon demanded larger studios. A move was made to the super modern studios in the NBC Building at East 9th and Superior Ave. Mr. Pribble is still station manager and the ether cash register is clicking a merry tune.

At the head of the Technical Department sits S. E. Leonard. His assistant, Russ Russell, is Station Engi-



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S. E. Leonard (seated). Russ Russell (standing)

ner. All of the above mentioned men are with WTAM with the exception of Ross Plaisted who is now a Lt. Commander in the U. S. Navy.

In closing I would like to thank Miss Mildred Funnell, Mr. Pribble's private Secretary, and Mr. Leonard for furnishing me with the above data. The three of us will get together and write a biography of Mr. Pribble in the near future.

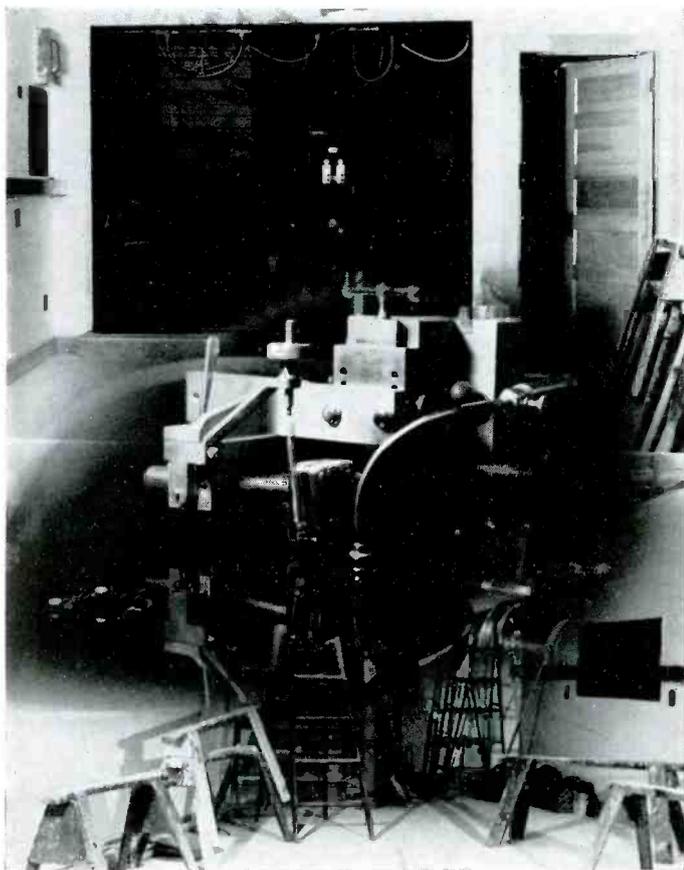
# Washington News

## WRC — WMAL

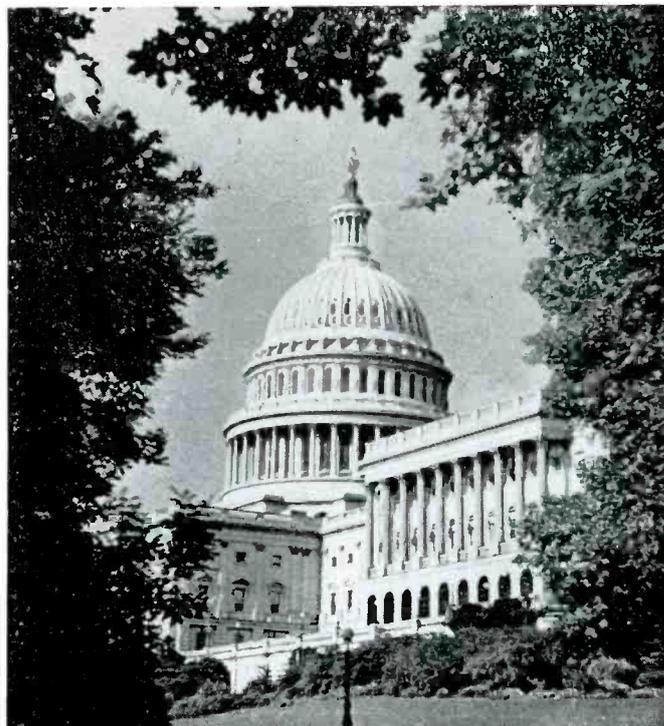
By R. E. Shenton

THE Washington office of the National Broadcasting Company is often unofficially called the overtime plant. This happy handle derives from the fact that the gang here is small in number, and responsible for a more variegated allotment of duties than will be found at larger branches. Perhaps this is the reason that Al Powley, president of the Washington Chapter of NABET, was the prime poker proponent at the just-concluded Convention in Chicago. When asked just what "hot releases" he had for the *Journal* this month, Al countered that he'd taught the gang to play "Rap poker," but that from the indoor sportsman's point of view the convention was not all that could have been desired because there was only one real poker session, which was sandwiched in between two meetings. Perhaps this will simplify the Grand Treasurer's report on convention expenses.

Our particular congratulations to Al for becoming the new National Vice-president; if he does the job in that office that he does here in D. C. as Chapter President, there should be a great excess of non-complaints.



Something new is being added to the NBC Washington engineering department. A local symbol-gremlin made this uncanny photo to try to drop a hint as to just what it is. Perhaps you get the idea . . . perhaps not. Be sure to watch for further developments.



R. E. Shenton

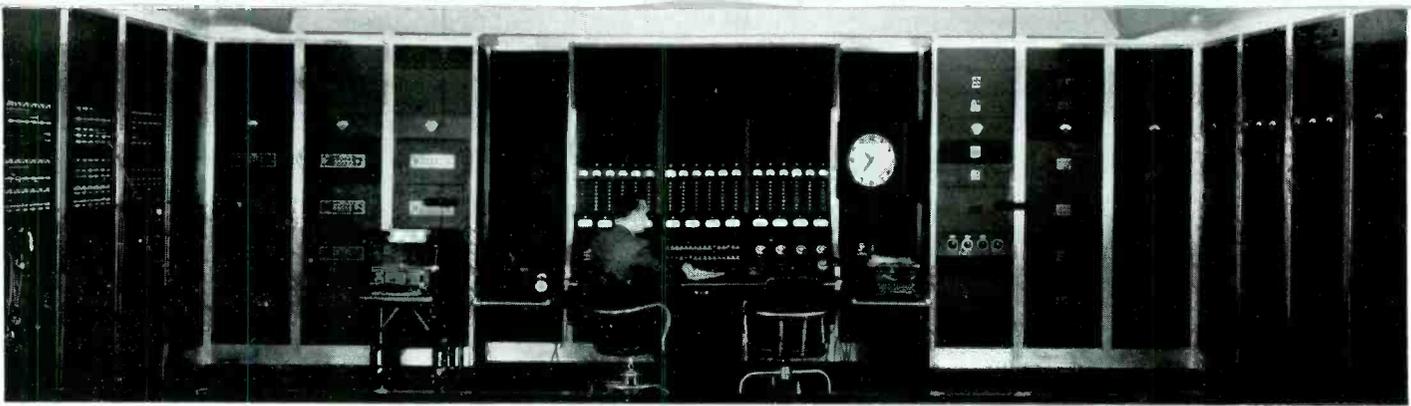
While Congress is arguing whether or not to draft NBC fathers (as well as all others, for that matter) the draft boards hereabouts are working equally hard drafting them. Most recent inductee here at NBC Washington is Dodd Boyd, who had been with this office for only a matter of months. Boyd left for the induction center of the Army on November 2, from whence only the chosen few know where he will go. Dodd's family already numbers three, with a newcomer expected within a very few days; needless to say he was disappointed to have to leave before the event occurred. Equally needless to say, the gang here all wish him the best of luck.

Although no other engineers have left within the past few weeks, several have received their 1A classifications, and it looks like our ranks may be rather severely thinned. The announcing staffs of both WRC and WMAL likewise are feeling the effect of the draft, losing men to the Army, Navy, and even one to the RCAF, although, his, of course, was through voluntary enlistment. Only yesterday an unidentified notice appeared on the Master Control bulletin board concerning opportunities for woman control and transmitter engineers. Could this be a straw in the wind. . . ?

\* \* \*

Our nomination for miracle-man of the month is Frank "Flounder" Fugazzi, MC Supervisor, who ferreted out, bought, and is now in the process of revitalizing a house out in Barnaby Woods, one of the nicest sections of town. Washington's housing situation is, we're sure, well known to all, so the tremendous significance of this achievement should be instantly grasped by both my readers. Probably the most interesting sequel to this accomplishment is that he had *three* painters working on the job at the same time. Surely anyone capable of working such miracles should be recommended to the boss for an efficiency raise, so let us be the first to make such a nomination. Frank expects to move in in a few weeks, probably before this copy reaches print. (The "Flounder" refers to his uncanny ability to pull these strange critters out of the water when other members of the fishing party stick to more desirable varieties. All this exhibited on his vacation last summer.)

(Continued on Page Twenty-three)



## Notes from the Nation's Station

WLW-WSAI-WLWO-WLWK

By BOB BROCKWAY

**T**HOUGHTS WHILE MINDING THE BABY. Now that the smoke of the battle has cleared, we find we missed the deadline last month. Sure hope it improved the Journal! Truth of the matter is—ye scribe was engaged in the rather exciting manoeuvres of becoming a Pappy for the second time. Hope the readers don't mind if we use this as a lead story, but we are really proud of little William Robert Brockway, who was born on September 11th. Thanks to all the guys who sent their best wishes . . . Studio Engineer Louis Barnett tells a swell story on Announcer Frazier Thomas. Thomas and Barnett were having lunch in an obscure spaghetti joint on Court Street and their table was administered by a lassie, who for want of better words, we'll refer to as not so genteel—or, in words of one syllable, she was "tough." For strangers to Cincinnati, Court Street is one of the last outposts of the city's declining Tenderloin district. While ordering their humble fare, the gal asked Thomas what he wanted to drink. Frazier popped off, "Well, you probably don't have it here; but, I want a glass of milk." After serving our hero with a withering glance, she brought the cow-juice, but it was evident throughout the meal that Frazier's flippancy didn't set well with her. She got her revenge when she presented the check. As Frazier dug into his pants pockets for some money, she screamed out, "Take your hands off my leg, you wretch." (Or words to that effect.) By the time the startled announcer had brought his hands to the top-deck of the table, all the other diners were looking in his direction, and his embarrassment only heightened the effect that the girl wanted. But as Frazier would put it, "My sister and I, we don't talk about that." We finally lost the "Reverend" to the Army. Yes, Ed Gleason enlisted and had his option taken up immediately and after a short stay at Ft. Thomas, Kentucky, was sent to Camp Ord, California. We were sorry to see Ed leave, but as they say, WLW's loss is the Army's gain, and truer words were never spoken. Another of the WLW gang who is in the Army, is now in Hollywood, making training films for the Air Corps. He is Private Charley Guffin. Hollywood readers, please watch after our boy and keep him out of the reach of the Hollywood she-wolves. In his last letter, he enclosed three snapshots of L. A. peaches—and brother! Is it so warm out there that people go without clothes all the time? . . . We received a communique from Raymond "Pig Boat" Murphy, who is in the Government service. Murphy has been transferred to Norfolk, Va. When he returns he can act as an interpreter for "Jedge" Earp, our lone "rebel". To our Dixie readers: Earp's mastery of the English (Yankee) language is improving. He says "house" now instead of "hoose" . . . Another of the WLW gang who is with the Government is Jeff Watts, who dropped in at the studios while enroute to a new assignment . . . Departed recently from the fold was Ed Conture who is now with the Blue Network in New York,

wherever that is. Our best wishes to Conture in his new job . . . Replacing Conture at the Crosley Square studios is Gene Young, who came to us from WCPO, Cincinnati. We are greatly indebted to Oscar Compton of the Mason Transmitter staff, who contributed the following items from the ol' Static Mill. It's all yours, Brother C, fire away.

## Notes From Oblivion

(Reading Time—Long Snuff)

By OSCAR COMPTON, Mason Transmitter

During a lull in taking meter readings, operational logs, changing antennae, answering telephones, playing records, arguing with M.C. about the level, and keeping an eye open for the boss, I find I have a few minutes to put a few notes together to the detriment of the Journal.—Jack (Scotch n' Soda) Humason had a narrow escape with hog while changing antennae. Gleam in his eye didn't mature, as the hog, like Washington Bureaucrat, was not very co-

(Continued on Page Twenty-four)

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# This Is Mutual

By Herman G. Berger

## WOR Engineer Starts Air Raid Messenger Recreation Center

**T**HE air raid messenger service in Jim Carter's sector in Hollis, Queens, was rapidly disintegrating. But thanks to Jim's ingenuity as sector Air Raid Chief, things are back to normal, if not better, his superiors report today.

The sector's work was badly handicapped because messengers were dropping their jobs in droves, Carter, an engineer, of 185-05 Jamaica Ave., reported. He asked and got permission to take unusual action—to open an Air Raid Warning Recreation Center.

A public-spirited landlord gave him the use of an empty store. Other citizens came through with donations of two cords of wood and a ton of coal. Jim then dug up several sets of boxing gloves, built a ring, installed a ping pong table and rowing machine—and he was in business.

The messenger problem has been virtually non-existent since.

The recreation center has been swamped by applicants for work. Even now the boys are competing in a "wood sawing contest" and a "coal bin building" project, also of Carter's devising.

## WOR's (Lieutenant General)



The above picture shows Mr. Harold L. Hadden, Senior Supervisor, better known to his radio colleagues as "Hax" at the console of WOR-Mutual switching center—to you old timers MC. Although the picture does not show his Three Stars that he proudly displays in the lapel of his coat meaning 15 years with the organization, he has dogmatically stayed at the post through Stock Crashes—Depressions—Prosperity and now at WOR (WAR)—(ahem, pardon the pun). His technical background goes back over broadcasting days when a phone call from New York or New Jersey was a symbol that your transmitter was putting out. Also remembers the portable amplifiers he used to carry on nemo's (portable because they had handles on

them). He also sat in on the first round table discussion of the VWOA and would like to hear from some of that gang—Waiting anxiously for post war activities to get back on the old ether for some of that good old brass pounding and signing off with 73's—88's—99's—"HN"

"Hax" is a graduate of RCA—attended sessions at Columbia University and Sheffield, was Chief Maintenance Engineer for WRNY—Chief Engineer WKBQ—Supervisor of WMAF and then joined the engineering staff of WOR August 1st, 1927, as Nemo engineer and worked his way through every phase of operation to his present position of Senior Supervisor. More power to you, "Hax" and all the luck in the world.

## WGN

### Engineer on "Moose Fireside Party" Feels at Home During Each Moose Broadcast; Used to be Mooseheart Student

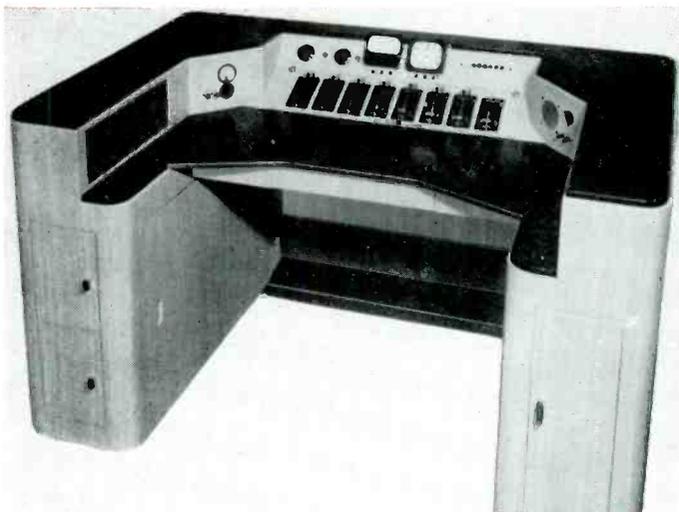
Karl Michael, WGN engineer, felt right at home while he was operating the monitor control board during the first broadcast of the MOOSE FIRESIDE PARTY in the WGN studios. It was a superintendent at Mooseheart, Illinois, a home and school maintained by the Royal Order of Moose, the sponsor of the "Fireside Party," who first started Michael on his engineering career when he was a student three years ago.

At the time Karl was assigned to handle the engineering duties on the Moose program, which is broadcast by WGN and the Mutual network from 5 to 5:30 p.m. EWT each Sunday, no one at the station or in the Moose organization knew he was a former Mooseheart student. But during rehearsal, he told Less Weinrott, the program's writer, that it was a "break" he had been given at Mooseheart that was indirectly responsible for his being at the modulating controls.

From 1920 to 1927, Michael told Weinrott, he had been a Mooseheart student. He had studied the fundamentals of electricity and had done repair work on the school's electrical equipment. He explained to Matthew P. Adams, the superintendent of Mooseheart at that time, that he was interested in getting into radio. So Adams arranged for him to go to work as an apprentice engineer at WJJD, which then had studios at Mooseheart. Because of the experience he gained there, Michael was able to obtain a full-time engineering position when he was graduated from the Moose school.

## WHK — WCLE

The United Broadcasting Company operates two radio stations, WHK and WCLE from five studios located on the Higbee Store Building in Cleveland, Ohio. Programs are broadcast from twenty-six remote points various times during the day, sometimes as high as ten remote broadcasts per day during the summer months and eight in the winter months. Facilities are available in Master Control for handling the programs of two national networks in addition to the twenty-six remote points and the five studios. Facilities are also available for feeding six outgoing channels simul-



taneously, plus up to ten additional auxiliary channels. Accompanying photograph shows the studio control desk.

The United Broadcasting Company has four transcription cutting turntables for instantaneous recordings and eight reproducers which may playback either vertical or lateral transcriptions. Also maintained in good working order are two high frequency amplitude modulated transmitters available for studio-transmitter service if line facilities are lost due to any cause. Also available for spot broadcast is a mobile unit containing 100 watt high frequency amplitude modulated transmitter.

## WASHINGTON NEWS (Continued from Page Twenty)

Two gentlemen from New York, Messrs. Butler and McCarthy, have temporarily invaded the local premises, leaving their mark by pulling out feet of lead cable, shielded wire, conduit, jack strips, amplifiers, etc., and reinstalling them at another point. Not meaning to be secretive, or military communiqueish about the whole thing, we'd like to withhold any more detailed information until we can spring the complete story. Perhaps the accompanying cut (if Ed Stolzenberger obliges) will serve as a hint as to just what is taking place. If not, well, just wait and see. We promise faithfully to make that wait worth your trouble. Anyway, we hope that Engineers Butler and McCarthy enjoy their visit to Washington, adding that what they are doing will long be remembered in the local technical circles.

\* \* \*

To conclude a rather short column, here's the customary funny type anecdote. The fearfully efficient U. S. Government recently sent out some detailed questionnaires to be filled out by members of the NBC staff, one of whom was Operations Supervisor, Bob Terrell. Things went along smoothly until he reached the line in which one writes the color of his hair. Terrell, a ten year man, definitely not a young squirt in the industry, thought this over, finally wrote "brown and turning," neatly covering the fact that he is getting a bit gray around the edges. Chief Engineer Don Cooper, also faced with the task of filling out the same form, received inspiration—he, too, is an old timer, with a slightly different problem. His questionnaire reads: "Color of hair—brown and falling." And now (anncrs. pse. copy) with this memo to Kreml, we'll leave you until next month.

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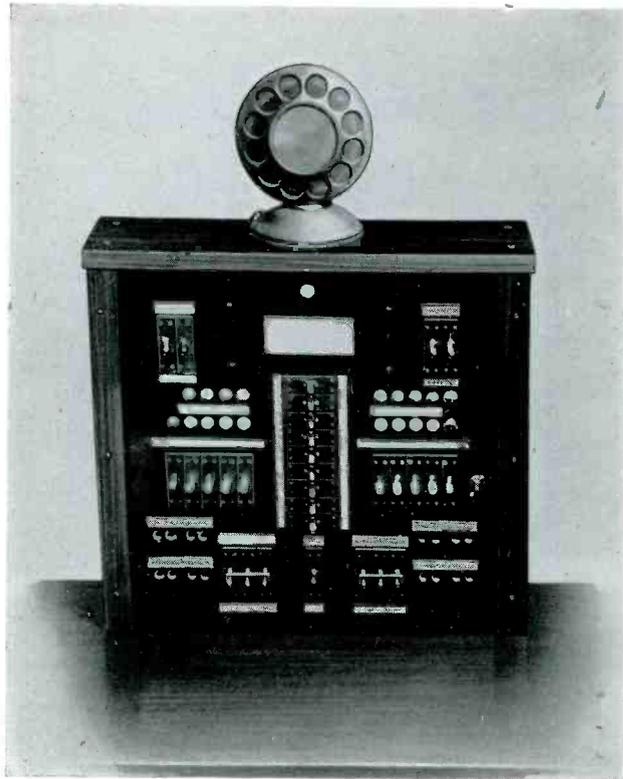
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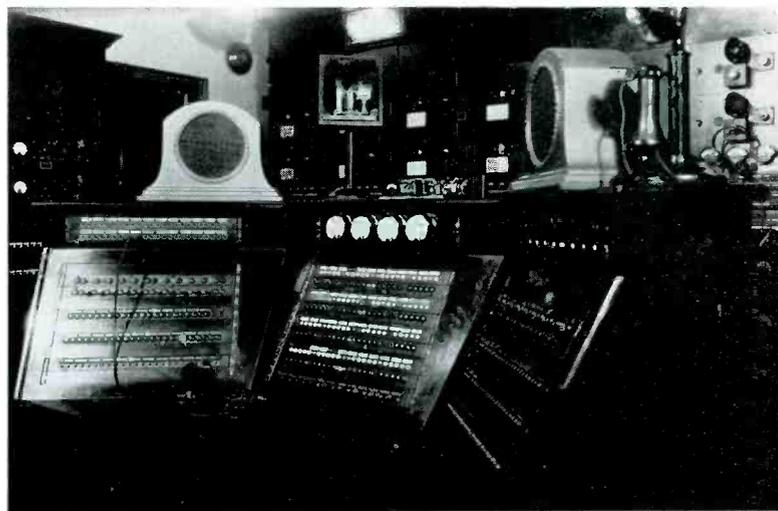
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**WLW** (Continued from  
Page Twenty-one)

operative.—Mary (Sweater Girl) Fedash, sec. to the resident engineer, heard the company was trying to hire some new technicians. She immediately put in a bid for one that was tall, dark, handsome and single. Some of the wolves around here tried to convince her that on many occasions a good used car can out-perform a new one.—Les (Dark-room) Petery has finished an oscilloscope and did a swell job. Wore his fingers out poking through the scrap barrel, but I suppose we all have to do that in these times. Any station desiring similar equipment should mail in their scrap box with a self-addressed stamped packing crate. While we are on the subject of building, Pete and Bert Gregg gave an estimate on the time required to wireup a rack full of audio equipment and associated stuff for WLWK. Their estimate was far, far below that of the studio maintenance gang. The fact is Pete and Bert made it stick, and the information got to the higher up, and for a while, it looked like open war. Of course, out here we only have one good-looking stenographer to whistle at—that makes a big difference. Studio maintenance mens' names withheld for obvious reasons.—Chas. (Old Salt) Glines brought some pictures to the transmitter the other day. Puerto Rico, Cuba, the Guianas, and Northern Brazil. A lot of the local scenery, including the girls. Very interesting and informative.—The landscape around here is gradually changing, we'll soon have enough "sky-wire" to accommodate about three million birds. This information will give no comfort to the enemy, it doesn't even give comfort to us guys that have to change

them in sub-Karo weather. Wish they were all like No. 6 South America; it has auto-matic tuning. Got a new hired hand the other day in the person of Eugene Walters from Richmond, Va. He is on Medical Discharge from the Navy and has promised to help us fight the Civil War all over again here at Mason. By golly, I bet we win this time! Mary Fedash almost had her wish fulfilled, but he has been married three months. Belated congratulations for Walters, my sympathy for Mary.—A note on the bulletin board says that anyone with drafting experience can transfer to the work-shop to work on some new short-wave transmitters. How about my Selective Service Board?—Well, I'd better get back to the transmitters. Shouldn't call 'em that, the proper name is "electronic compost spreaders." (Vitamin advertisers please note.) So long from Mason (Sibera), Ohio. NEWS FLASH—The sparrows have stolen the Norden Bomb-sight and have added some improvements, judging from their uncanny accuracy from the high wires.



The birth of a rhombic a la Mason, Ohio  
Courtesy Homer Ray, WLW Transmitter



## With a *"Git-along-dogie"* Guitar

When the day's work is done, men of the great western plains gather under the stars for relaxation. As the night wears on, one of them picks up his guitar, and they all sing the songs they know and love. The guitar is a fitting companion to their voices. Its slow, almost melancholy, twang is homespun in sound, with no attempt at grandness. It has the quality of softness, contentment and timelessness . . . just like the men who strum it.

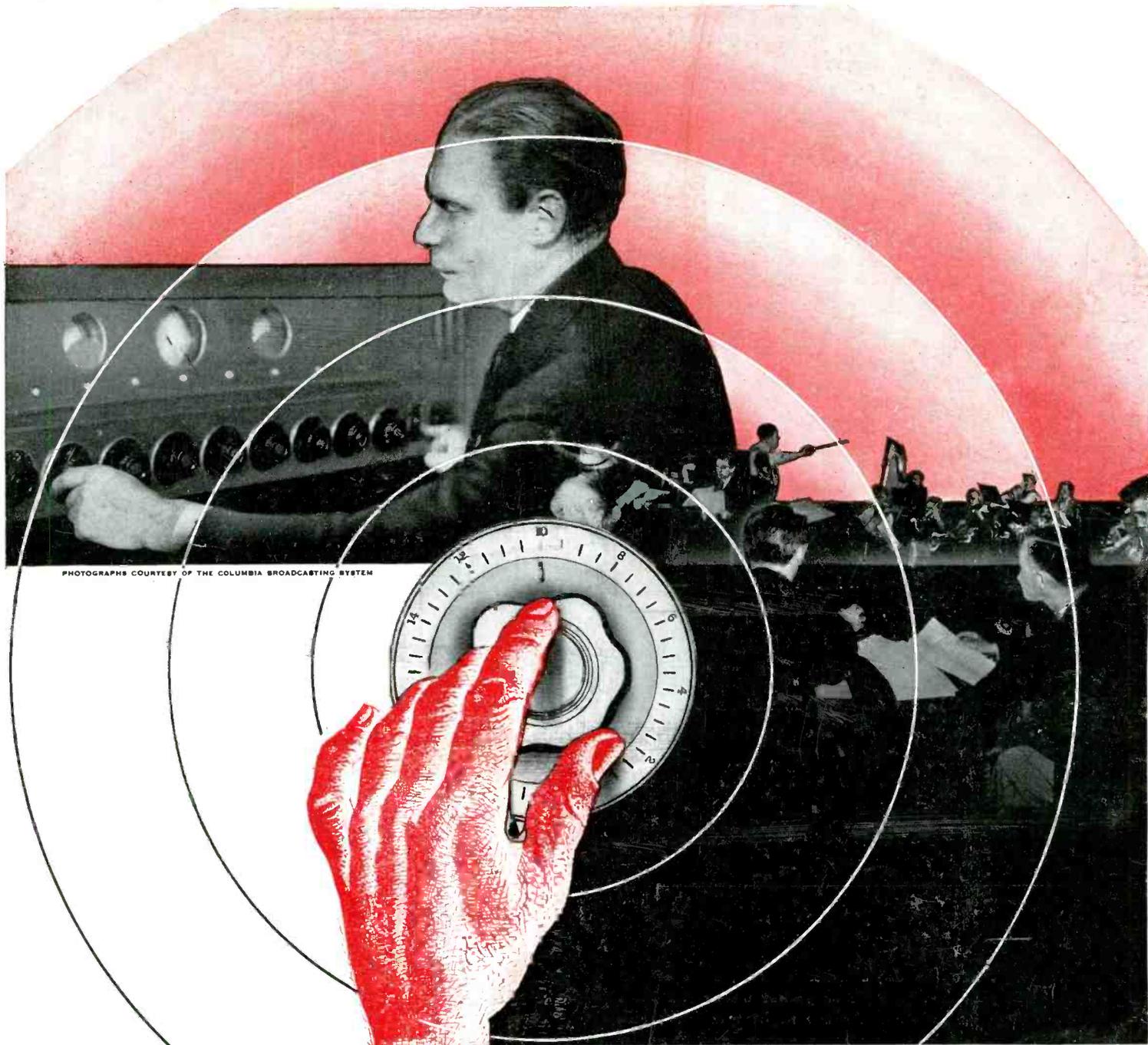
Cowboys, however, are not the only ones who love the melodies of the plains and the

guitar. There are others . . . in the towns and the cities . . . and they depend upon the radio. To these others, the value of a good studio reproduction is obvious. They want to hear clearly and distinctly the plaintive note, the rhythmic strumming that is characteristic of the guitar. This desired clear image can be obtained by using Advance Glass Base Recording Blanks. No distortion, blurring or scratching, Advance reproductions are flawless mirrors of the original music.

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