



# MANITOBA CALLING

RADIO BRANCH - CKY - CKX  
MANITOBA TELEPHONE SYSTEM  
VOL. VI. - NO. 10, OCTOBER 1942



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*Good Shooting!*





Address all communications to Public Relations Department,  
Radio Branch,  
Manitoba Telephone System,  
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## Thanksgiving

*The bountiful garden produce depicted in our cover subject is symbolic of the spirit of Thanksgiving, in the season when Nature yields her treasures for mankind.*

*As we contemplate our lush gardens and golden harvest we may indeed give thanks for the good things of the earth,—food to give us strength to meet the tasks confronting us in our daily work,—food to share with those in less fortunate circumstances, where the ravages of war have laid bare their fields and gardens.*

*Though sadness and concern have left few of us untouched, let us truly give thanks for the many blessings bestowed on us in this land of ours—Canada.*





## THE HAPPY GANG

*... and  
Bert Pearl  
under the  
piano!!*



Shown above is a recent picture of "The Happy Gang", having a lot of good-natured fun at the expense of the genial master of ceremonies Bert Pearl.

Following a busy summer of preparation for their new fall series, the "Happy Gang" are once again spreading their daily thirty-minutes of sunshine in Canadian homes from coast to coast.

In the group pictured are Bert Pearl, under the piano with hands over ears; Bob Farnon (with trumpet), George Temple, Blain Mathe, Kathleen Stokes, Eddie Allen and announcer Hugh Bartlett.

Just to let you see Bert "right side up" we are publishing the inset picture, in response to many requests for a photo in "Manitoba Calling" of "five feet two and a half of sunshine", Bert Pearl. "The Happy Gang", sponsored by Colgate-Palmolive, are a daily week-day feature except Saturdays at 12:15 p.m. (CBC—CKY—CKX).

## "They Tell Me . . ."

Claire Wallace, Canada's famous woman radio star, is shown here listening to one of her hundreds of scouts and friends who telephone Claire with a tip-off on a story. Yes, the cop on the beat, the store detective, the farmer's wife, the shop-girl, the university co-ed and even the movie star, are all numbered among those who like to tell Claire the things she tells Canada in "They Tell Me". That's Claire's way of digging for the human interest story behind the news. A touch of the great is always acceptable, so Claire also telephones to many parts of the continent for stories, including Washington, D.C., New York and Ottawa. Now, over a coast-to-coast hook-up Claire Wallace, with Todd Russell, her indispensable announcer, lets you in on the intimate stories of the nation in "They Tell me".

Claire not only knows how to dig for her story on the telephone, but she has had an interesting and varied career as a newspaper reporter both here and in England. She reported many world-famous events including the wedding of



Princess Marina and the late Duke of Kent and the Silver Jubilee of the late King George V.

Her story-hunting exploits for her broadcast include spending a night alone in a 98-room castle, walking on the bottom of the ocean in Bermuda and checking weather conditions in the stratosphere at over 12,000 feet. Miss Wallace's hobby is collecting cats, not real cats, but those made of china, plaster, cloth and wood. In fact, early in her broadcasting career she shared the microphone with a real silver grey Persian known as "Pussy Willow".

Today, on a national broadcast, you may listen to Claire Wallace's many exploits and unique stories with Todd Russell, her jovial, irrepressible announcer who has ad-libbed much of the fun into Claire Wallace shows for over three years. Here, there and everywhere in Canada she is gathering stories for Canadian women. Who knows? She may have your number for her next "They Tell Me" programme.

"They Tell Me" is a daily feature at 12:45 p.m., Mondays to Fridays, CKY and CKX.



Todd Russell



## Vikings in Manitoba

By PHILIP H. GODSELL, F.R.G.S. *Two views of Gimli, Manitoba.*  
 Noted Fur Trader and Arctic Traveller.

When James F. Dodds dug his pick into the virgin mould of his gold-claim at the frontier village of Beardmore, 125 miles northeast of Port Arthur, on May 24th, 1941, and unearthed a piece of rusty metal he didn't realize that he was laying bare some ancient Norse relics that might rip asunder the accepted story of the discovery of North America and show that Viking feet had trodden the soil of Ontario four hundred years before Columbus.

Probably it would have lain there neglected but for a casual visit of Professor Burwash. Led to the spot by the chance remark of the miner, his astonished eyes rested upon this piece of rusted armour worn by some Viking warrior nine hundred years before.

Then followed discoveries at different times and by four different people including Prof. McIlwraith of Toronto, of a Viking broadsword, a battle-axe and an iron shield-handle.

Placed in the Royal Ontario Museum in Toronto, the relics were photographed, and prints sent to leading Norse scholars throughout Europe. Convinced that these were genuine Viking relics of the 11th century, Dr. Currelly, director of the museum, anxiously awaited their reports. And all agreed that they were genuine Viking weapons of one period dating from 950 A.D. to 1000 A.D.

### Before Columbus

Still there remained the perplexing problem of how these valuable relics could possibly have reached such an outlandish spot. Either they had been "planted" (for which there could have been little reason) or some wandering Norseman had actually penetrated into the heart of Canada 500 years before Columbus was born.

The report recalled Eric the Red's lost Greenland colony and the possibility that this unknown Viking might have been one of the lost colonists who had penetrated to North America aboard a Norse galley and probably been shipwrecked on Manitoba's inland ocean, Hudson Bay.

### Eric The Red

Back in 870 A.D. Norse sailors, sweeping the northern seas in their long black-painted galleys discovered and colonized Iceland. Over a century later that picturesque buccaneer Eric the Red, having been banished for murder, made his home in Iceland. When his dirk again drew blood he was banished from Iceland for three years. His exile over, he returned to Iceland, told of the enchanting land of "Greenland" he'd discovered and led a fleet of twenty-five galleys to colonize his find. Some disappeared, some were wrecked, some reached their destination and disgorged cattle, horses, and even womenfolk upon the glacial shores. By the twelfth century the colony was flourishing, boasting a bishopric, two monasteries, a nunnery, fourteen churches and a population of over three thousand souls which, in 1347, contributed walrus ivory to help finance the Crusades and a Norwegian war against Russia.

Meanwhile, pushing across the polar fastnesses of what now constitute Alaska, the Northwest Territories and Northern Manitoba, from Asia were hordes of Stone Age barbarians, living on the polar bears, the bowhead whales, the reindeer, seal and walrus that fell before their ivory-tipped harpoons.

For three thousand years this Mongolian invasion from Asia had been groping its way across the roof of the world. With startling suddenness these

Stone Age people found themselves facing blonde giants in glinting chain armour on the rocky shores of Greenland. As the Eskimos filtered southward bloody encounters between the Viking colonists and the savages became common, until another European upheaval sundered communication with Greenland and the colony was forgotten by the civilized world.

When English navigators rediscovered Greenland in the sixteenth century, all signs of the Norse colony had disappeared, to be replaced by the sealskin tupeks of nomad Eskimos. And to this day the fate of these lost colonists still puzzles scholars of Scandinavian history.

No such mystery surrounds the Viking colonists of Manitoba who braved the terrors of the wilderness, hacking homes from the bleak forests on the fir-fringed shores of Lake Winnipeg. The first "New Canadians" to enter Manitoba, and demonstrate that a living could be drawn from the open treeless plains were the Mennonites, and following close on their heels came the next batch of pioneer settlers—descendants of the race whose ancestors had helped to found the lost Greenland colony—the Icelanders.

The first Icelander to come to Canada, Sygtryggur Jonasson, visited Ontario and sent back such glowing accounts that a year later a party arrived in Canada and took up land in Muskoga. The second party faced a long and difficult trek which throws some light

on their reason for calling their objective on the bleak shores of Lake Winnipeg Gimli—meaning "Paradise"!

Going first to Kinmount in Ontario, and poorly equipped with worldly goods, they found themselves in difficulties when the railroad work they were engaged in ended. In John Taylor they found a friend, and in Lord Dufferin they found another. Plans were made to move them west to Manitoba. Delegates sent out to view the West decided on Lake Winnipeg as a site for the future colony instead of the fertile Portage Plains. Perhaps it was something in the granite hardness of Lake Winnipeg's shores that recalled the rocky reaches of their native Iceland. Perhaps it was the abundance of fish that could be netted beneath its sparkling rollers. Here was an abundance of timber for building and for fuel. Large tracts of land could be secured where the Icelanders would be masters of their own destiny. And, furthermore, the main line of the projected C.P.R. railway was scheduled to cross the river and make a city of Selkirk, only forty miles away.

Warmed by the enthusiastic reports of their scouts these modern Vikings set out for Manitoba. On October 11th, 1875 they arrived in Winnipeg—eighty-five families comprising 285 souls. Ten days later they reached the promised land at Gimli. The winter was long and hard, but the forests of Lake Winnipeg echoed to the ringing blows of pioneer axes and the crash of

(Continued on Page 14)



Iron sword, axe and grip of shield. Viking, about 1000 A.D. Found near Beardmore, Northern Ontario.



## Brian

STALAG VIIA. — Picture received from Mrs. K. N. Laing, her husband is on extreme left. Sgt. K. N. Laing, Weyburn, Sask. Sgt. I. Hewitt, Port Dover, Ont. Sgt. Brian Hodgkinson, Winnipeg, Man. (Right)

The picture is re-printed from "Canadian Prisoners of War Relatives Association". Recent letters from Brian report that his wounds are nearly better, and that he is recovering his health. He wishes to be remembered to all his friends.

Following is an excerpt from an interesting letter received from a reader in West Selkirk . . . "Just a line to say how much I enjoy 'Manitoba Calling'. I've been sending copies overseas to Spr. G. E. Wright and LAC D. G. Wright. The latter was in the same squadron as Brian Hodgkinson, and serviced his plane the day before he was taken prisoner. He was very pleased to get the June issue with Brian's letter in it. . . ."

Indicative of the wide interest in Brian's welfare is the following letter, one of many like it, from another reader. . . "I was indeed pleased with the August 'Manitoba Calling', more so because it had news of 'big brother' Brian. I wouldn't have missed that copy for worlds! . . ."



### A COCKNEY'S "OVERTIME"

'I discovered that my cockney friend in corduroys, not content with ten hours hard toil daily on a factory extension, went nightly to the local Civil Defence post to do a spell of duty and to assist expertly in rescue work. Such men are the salt of the earth.' — Sir Harold Bellman, in 'Britain Speaks.'

### THE GOOD DEED RADIO CLUB

On Saturday, September 19th, CKY listeners heard once again the familiar opening lines and cheers that introduce the Eaton Good Deed Radio Club, as it commenced its fourth season of broadcasting.

The opening broadcast originated from the Capitol Theatre, and in conjunction with the National War Finance Committee featured War Savings Stamps in Winnipeg schools. The Good Deed awards throughout the series will consist of a ten dollar War Savings Certificate, instead of the wrist watches awarded in previous seasons.

The Elgar Junior Choir of Vancouver was featured on the opening broadcast, and won the hearts of both the theatre and air audiences with their splendid performance.

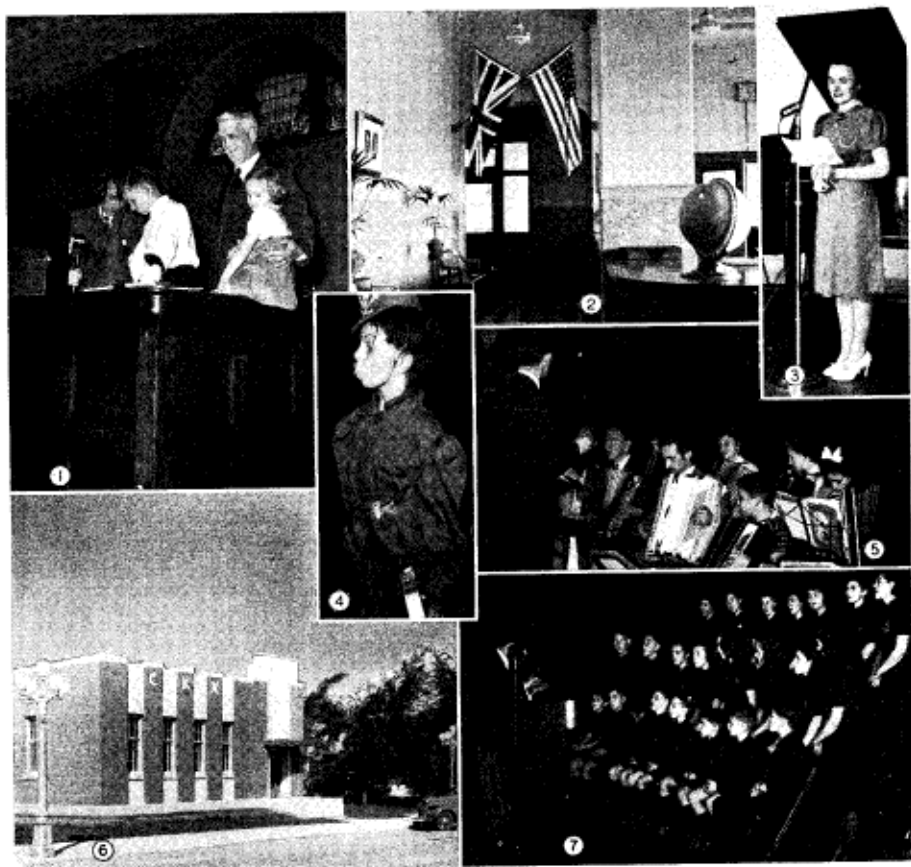
The enthusiasm of Good Deed members in the first broadcast of the series gives promise of another successful season, and members, production staff and the sponsors are all looking forward to many happy hours in the Good Deed Radio Club.

Broadcast every Saturday morning at 10:30 to 11:00 o'clock on CKY, the Good Deed Radio Club is sponsored by the T. Eaton Co. Limited.



## Personalities and Events

. . . around CKY-CKX



(1) His Honour R. F. McWilliams, K.C., Lieutenant Governor, is pictured with Merilee and Danny following a Community Chest broadcast from the Winnipeg Grain Exchange Trading Pit. CKY Operator Ed. Dusang (left) explains the remote equipment to Danny. (2) Proudly mounted over the arch leading to the CKY Studio Corridor are the "Union Jack" and the "Stars and Stripes." (3) The cameraman snapped this picture of announcer Peggy Fyfe, of the CKX staff, during a broadcast from Studio A. (4) Rounds of applause greeted "Good Deeder" Verna Whitely for her performance before twenty-two hundred children attending the opening Good Deed Radio Club from the Capitol Theatre. (5) Bill Lowe's Accordion Band, also heard in the Good Deed Programme are seen "in action" during the broadcast. (6) A recent snap of the CKX studio building in Brandon. Set amid its green lawns in City Hall Square this modern building is attracting many visitors. (7) The Elgar Junior Choir, of Vancouver, pictured on stage at the Capitol Theatre in Winnipeg as they took part in the opening Good Deed Radio Club broadcast. The choir is on another "Sing For Victory" tour across Canada.

# Radio Goes



1

1. The Commanding Officer studies his map while the operator stands by ready to transmit orders.



2

2. A Company Commander receives his orders by radio. The Signalman, centre, is operating the "walkie-talkie" set.



3

3. Somewhere in England officers of a Canadian regiment make radio contact with other sections of their unit.

4. Men of an armoured unit establish communications with their mobile headquarters.

5. Instructions to his field unit are transmitted by the signal set pictured below.

*Public Information and Canadian Overseas Army Photos.*



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# o Goes To War . . . .

In the September issue the first in this series of articles told something of Radio Communications in the R.C.A.F., and the training of Wireless Air Gunners. This month our article deals with the part Radio plays in Army communications.

Radio, one of mankind's greatest peacetime boons, is now at war. Few will realize how dependent modern warfare is upon radio for its communications, or will they know, until the complete story can be told, of the wide scope of radio activity in this titanic struggle.

Canadians can be proud of the way in which our factories are turning out military type radio communication equipment and allied materials, a mighty contribution to Canada's war effort.

Thousands of men and women with radio training are engaged in the operation and maintenance of the equipment which performs an exceedingly important role in the training of the army and in actual warfare.

Let us review briefly how radio fits into this picture:—

There are several types of radio equipment used in the Army today. They range from high powered ground stations at Army Headquarters, medium powered combination transmitter-receivers for tanks and other vehicles and also the latest development, the "walkie-talkie", which as the name implies, permits two-way conversation while on the move. It is a small compact battery operated transceiver carried on the back of a soldier. With this set it is possible for a commander to maintain communication with his advancing troops regardless of the distance or type of ground over which they are moving.

### Signal Sections

The larger combination transmitter-receivers are installed in all tanks and most other motor vehicles. Every armoured Division, Artillery Regiment and Infantry Brigade has its own signal section composed of men of the Royal Canadian Corps of Signals. These signal sections provide communication within its own group and also to supporting arms, including the Air Force. The use of radio as a means of inter-service communication is illustrated in

the following account of an incident overseas. A night fighter on patrol over Southern England spotted an army convoy showing more light than was advisable as it moved along a road. The pilot reported to his base, from where the message was relayed to the Army Liaison Officer. He, in turn, advised the Army Commander in the area concerned, and the convoy was contacted by wireless. Within ten minutes of sending his original message the patrolling night fighter saw the army convoy lights being dimmed.

### Signals Training

Signalmen are trained in all branches and methods of communication because in addition to radio, there are several other methods of communication, such as the field telephone, signal lamp, Morse flags, despatch riders, heliograph, etc. A signalman must be not only efficient in signals but is also trained in the basic work of an infantryman in order to protect himself in action from enemy aircraft, gas or tank attack. These signalmen are the "Linemen in Khaki" who guard the life-line of communication for Canada's fighting men.

In Ottawa, National Defence Headquarters are in constant touch with the Canadian Army Overseas, and across Canada. At the rate of about 250 words a minute, night and day, messages are dispatched to receivers in command centres, operated by the Royal Canadian Corps of Signals. Channels of radio communication are kept open twenty-four hours a day to send and receive these messages.

The Royal Canadian Corps of Signals is responsible for the vast system of communications linking shore batteries, airdromes and naval stations engaged in the defence of Canada's coasts. Here, behind the scenes, the Army Signal's Corps operates the "nerve centre" of our home defence.

Men applying for enlistment in the Royal Canadian Corps of Signals are

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## *Funster!!*



Alan Young, master of ceremonies and merriment, heads the breezy new "Alan Young Variety Show" every Tuesday at 7:30 to 8:00 p.m. (CBC—CKY—CKX).

Hailed as Canada's ace funster Alan scored a big hit as writer and M.C. of "Stag Party", carried by the CBC and NBC Blue Networks.

Sharing the spotlight on the show are Eric Wild and his popular Blended Rhythm Orchestra.

The "Alan Young Variety Show" is presented by the makers of Buckingham Cigarettes.

### **RECOMMENDED LISTENING**

The Army, the Navy and the Air Force will participate in a new series of "Comrades in Arms" to tell the people of Canada the story of their united effort.

The programmes are broadcast each Friday evening at 9:15, commencing October 2nd (CBC—CKY—CKX).

## **THE LISTENING PARADE**

September and October are the months marking the return of many "top favorites" via the radio waves. In the last few weeks listeners have welcomed the return of "John and Judy" in the Tuesday evening schedule; and the "Alan Young Variety Show," replacing "Blended Rhythm" of the past season. Another highlight of Tuesday's listening is the "Fibber McGee and Molly" programmes, with the ever-amusing pair back for the winter season with more of their grand humour.

The first Sunday in October brings back two more popular shows, the "Lipton Tea Musicale" at 5.00 p.m., and the "Jack Benny Programme" at 6.00 p.m. Though presented in behalf of another of General Foods' products, we understand the programme will retain all the features that have made it a "must listen" over a period of many years.

On Monday, October 19th, "That Brewster Boy" will take-over the half hour between 7:30 and 8:00 p.m., with more of his entertaining escapades. Also commencing on October 19th a new series of "Good Luck" programmes, featuring Bob Farnon, will be heard on CKY at 6:00-6:15 p.m. Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays. The "Amos 'n Andy" series, currently scheduled at 6:00 p.m., will be presented at 7:00 p.m. Mondays to Fridays, beginning Monday, October 19th.



**Eric Wild**  
"Variety Show" Music Maestro

## CKX Brandon



The "Robin Hood Oats Musical Telequiz" is attracting CKX listeners in the Thursday evening schedule. Announcers Peggy Fyfe and Russ Carriere conduct the "telequiz", during which telephone subscribers picked at random from the directory are asked to identify the "quiz melody". If the listener fails to identify the melody the cash award is carried over to the next call, accumulating with each unsuccessful call. Consolation awards of the sponsors' product go to contestants failing to name the melody. In addition to the "Telephone Quiz" a "Mail Quiz" is also conducted during the programme for listeners who do not have telephones.

Pictured above are Peggy Fyfe, busy with the directory, and Russ Carriere placing the calls in the "telequiz" show. Sponsored by the Robin Hood Flour Mills Ltd., "Musical Telequiz" is heard on CKX every Thursday evening at 7:30 p.m.

★ ★ ★

William F. Seller, manager of Radio Station CKX, Brandon, is another "old-timer" in point of radio experience, dating his first acquaintance with the industry back to the early "twenties" when he first appeared before a microphone. He joined the CKY announcing staff in 1931, and in December, 1936,

was moved to Brandon to his present position as manager of CKX.

Bill Seller was the originator and author of the popular series "Ebony and White", in which he played "Mr. White"; and will also be remembered for his work as "Pat" in "Bridget and Pat". His love of dramatics comes from his work with concert parties overseas during the last war, where he played with such famous artists as Reginald Denny.

Like so many veterans of the First Great War, Bill has once again answered the call, and is serving as lieutenant in the 2nd/59th Battery (Reserve), R.C.A.

One of his proudest moments was Boxing Day of last year, when CKX broadcast its first programmes from its new studios, a building modern in design and housing the newest and latest in broadcasting equipment.

For hobbies and relaxation Bill Seller



W. F. Seller

is a devotee of the manly arts of boxing and wrestling, and is proud, too, of the garden he grows successfully each year. In the days of unrestricted travel, he devoted much time to the organization of concert parties in the western part of the province. Now, he is bringing some splendid talent from the military camps in the district to the CKX Studios, where their offerings are well-received by listeners to CKX.

## Radio Goes to War

(Continued from Page 9)

given aptitude tests to ascertain their qualifications for signal work. If accepted, they begin eight weeks of basic training, upon completion of which they are posted to the Signal Training Centre at Kingston, Ontario.

At S.T.C. they will be classified into trade groups depending on their preferences and natural aptitudes. Some will be wireless operators, others telephone linemen, telephone operators, despatch riders, switchboard operators, electricians and fitters, and drivers of Signal motor-transport.

Each trade carries trades pay, for which the men qualify and receive in addition to their daily pay.

On completing a period of advanced training they are sent overseas to a Holding Unit and used as replacements. It is interesting to note that the highest paid non-commissioned officer in the Army is a Foreman of Signals, Warrant Officer Class 1.



Signalmen operate a field transmitter aboard a wireless truck during field maneuvers.

## BOUQUET OF HONOR

A signal honour was bestowed on a prominent citizen of Winnipeg on Thursday, September 10th, when the "Carnation Bouquet of Honour for gallantry in daily living" was presented to Dr. E. Cora Hind.

Thus another tribute has been paid to Dr. Hind for her untiring work and writings through a long and close association with Western agriculture, and to her spirit in carrying-on her work though in her 81st year.

A beautiful bouquet of red and white carnations, with a scroll symbolic of the award, were delivered to Miss Hind following the formal presentation on the air.

The "Carnation Bouquet" programmes, sponsored by the Carnation Milk Co., are heard Tuesdays and Thursdays at 1.45 p.m. on CKY.

## TEN FOR ONE

A letter received from a reader in Wawanesa tells of a novel method used to raise funds for an Overseas Parcel Fund.

Attending "Treasure Trail" the previous week, the writer won two silver dollars. Upon his return home he gave the sponsors of the Wawanesa Overseas Parcel Fund one of the silver dollars to raffle. Twenty packages of Doublemint Gum,—one hundred sticks,—were numbered and each stick sold for ten cents.

The ten dollars realized from the sale of these sticks was used to purchase gum and chocolate bars to put in parcels for Wawanesa boys serving overseas.

Thus, another instance of the spirit of Canadian youth in organizing funds for patriotic causes. Our congratulations to the Wawanesa group!

## Comes to Canada



Helen Hayes, star of stage, screen and radio is pictured above in her home, studying a script for a radio drama.

Miss Hayes came to Toronto on September 20th to give her talents in "The Last Freedom", the opening performance in the new series "Nazi Eyes on Canada", presented by the Department of Finance each Sunday at 6:30 p.m. (CBC—CKY—CKX).

★

The BBC London Letter published the following true story of an incident at Plymouth during a blitz. A fire was blazing in some of the furniture stores near the Quadrant, and some sailors and soldiers were hard at work getting some of the stuff out. Beds, pianos, chairs were being dumped across the road. Incendiaries were still falling when a sailor came round the corner. He took one look at the scene, and said: "Blimey! and I've been looking all over Plymouth for a piano." Heedless of the bombs coming down all round he pulled up a chair from the dump and started to play "England", "Home Sweet Home" and "Home Town", and everyone joined in and sang while they got on with the job.

## A NEW HENRY ALDRICH

Red-headed freckle-faced Norman Tokar is radio's new Henry Aldrich. The erstwhile Willie of The Aldrich Family has succeeded Ezra Stone as Henry in the popular comedy heard on the CBC National network at 7:30 p.m. (CKY—CKX) on Thursdays. After nearly five years in the part, Ezra has withdrawn to play the more realistic role of Sgt. Ezra Stone in the U.S. Army.

Tokar has been toying with the Henry role for years. Months before Henry Aldrich became known to radio, Norman was understudy for Ezra Stone, who had the role in the Broadway play, "What a Life". Tokar even had a brief fling in the part when Eddie Bracken, the road company Henry, came down with a cold in Philadelphia.

It was Tokar's proficiency in the stage role that almost kept him out of radio's Aldrich Family. When he went around to NBC at Radio City, producers were lukewarm at best. Even in supporting roles, Norman sounded too much like Ezra. Convinced that there was no place for him there as long as he bore that resemblance in voice, Norman took a hitch in his belt and invented his character of Willie. The befuddled youth with the marble-in-mouth delivery was an immediate hit.

### MEANT EVERY WORD

Evelyn MacGregor recently sang Jerome Kern's new melody "Dearly Beloved" on the Friday evening programme, "Waltz Time". Just before leaving the studio she received a telegram. "Dear Miss MacGregor," it read, "You certainly made it sound as if you meant every word of it. Such sincerity is rare. Appreciative thanks and regards." The signature was that of Jerome Kern himself!

"Waltz Time" is presented each Friday at 8:00 p.m. (CBC—CKY—CKX).





## Vikings in Manitoba

(Continued from Page 5)

falling trees as clearings commenced to dot its snow-clad shores, and billowing white pillars of wood-smoke rose into the steely sky from mud chimneys in the log homes hacked from primeval forest. Deer were hunted in the woods, moose-meat bartered from passing red men; nets were set beneath the ice, bringing a silvery tribute of beautiful whitefish; even the lowly snowshoe rabbit contributed his share in tiding these new settlers through the winter. And despite the hardships, letters went back to Iceland bringing another party along the following year.

The difficulties which faced these modern Vikings, in what was then the heart of an untamed wilderness which the newly-formed Mounted Police at Lower Fort Garry on the nearby Red River were just setting out to tame, were formidable and would have defeated a less sturdy race.

Hardly were the new homes reared than, in the fall of 1877, the plague of smallpox struck the backwoods settlement with devastating fury. Cut off for weeks from communication with the outside world, more than fifty persons died ere Lord Dufferin managed to personally reach the plague-beleagured colony with succour and medical supplies. With indomitable courage these pioneer Icelanders, who had chosen the most sterile part of Manitoba in which to carve out their future, continued to make progress, building up a fishing industry that brought employment, but under conditions that taxed their Viking souls to fight storm and stress and rise superior to the elements.

To those of us who travelled the blizzard-lashed reaches of Lake Winnipeg by dog-team, these cheery log homes of the Icelanders nestling in the snow-mushroomed spruce beckoned like welcoming beacons, the rosy light of their windows glowing far out over the frozen lake. With joyous barks our dogs would leap into their collars as they sniffed the wood smoke and with careening toboggans and jingling bells would

hurtle to their doors in a wild array of barking canines and tangled harness. The ever-ready hospitality of these pioneer settlers was always extended. A sumptuous meal of moose steak, pies, doughnuts or whitefish, fresh from the lake and fried a golden brown, was quickly set before us. Then rolling into our rabbit robes on a spotless floor we would slip into the land of nod, undisturbed by the tempest that roared without, or the bitter cold that caused the trees in the neighbouring forest to crack with reports like rifle-shots.

From their bleak homes carved from the wilderness shores of Lake Winnipeg the Icelandic people have spread to other parts of Manitoba,—many to Winnipeg, others to Selkirk and still others to the wheat-bearing lands of Argyle and Posen. Wherever they have gone and whatever they have done they have enriched the general life of Manitoba and added to its progress. The Hon. Thomas Johnson who came here as a boy became the Attorney General of the province, while in 1879 there was born on the shores of this inland sea, Vilhjalmur Stefansson, destined to acquire fame in Arctic exploration and his discovery of Canada's last surviving remnants of the Stone Age—the 'Blonde' Eskimos of Coronation Gulf.



## The Troops Entertain

The Sally Ann Hut at Camp Shilo was a busy and popular spot on the evening of Wednesday, September 23rd, when a galaxy of performers from various units stationed at the Camp participated in a half-hour broadcast over CKX, Brandon. While CKX has fostered talent from training centres in the district, this was the first time a complete broadcast was carried to CKX listeners from a military camp.

The enthusiasm of the performers and the interest of listeners warrants a continuation of these broadcasts weekly, and as we go to press plans are under way to make them a regular feature.



## "SMILIN' ED. McCONNELL



Who was the first commercial radio artist in America? You'll get all sorts of answers, but as near as we can find out, honors go to "Smilin' Ed." McConnell, who has been sponsored for almost twenty years. The reason for "Smilin' Ed's" two decades of continued popularity is the simplest one imaginable—people like him because he is sincere, natural and unaffected.

"Too many people nowadays are afraid to be themselves," said "Smilin' Ed" recently. "They're afraid someone will laugh at them if they take a minute to say a cheery word to someone who's blue, or to congratulate him on some work well done. Just the same, I've noticed that these are the very folks who brighten up like a new dime when they're on the receiving end of such neighborliness."

And "Smilin' Ed" McConnell lives as he talks. On his Michigan farm,—his neighbor's new tractor or a community Christmas programme are of far greater interest than the social life of a large city.

"Smilin' Ed" returns to CKY in a new series of 15-minute programmes at 5:00 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays, commencing October 20th, sponsored by The Mantle Lamp Company.

## SHORTER BROADCAST HOURS

In a measure to conserve existing broadcast equipment radio stations in Canada are curtailing their late evening schedules.

In line with this policy CKY will conclude its daily broadcasting schedule at approximately 11:35, following a brief newscast scheduled at 11:30 p.m.

This shorter broadcast day has brought about some changes in the evening schedule. Listeners are asked to refer to the programme schedules elsewhere in this issue for particulars.



## NO LILY-WHITE HANDS NOW

"At the station I visited the ground staff were entirely girls. They looked exactly, as you can imagine, like—like pygmies—in their blue battle dress and berets, lying over the tail of the 'planes, turning the heavy starting handles as they shouted "contact", running alongside to guide the huge machines as they landed. And most of them were scarcely out of their 'teens. One little girl told me, as she fitted on her parachute and climbed into the cockpit ready to take off, that she had come over here from Canada on a visit shortly before the war and married the boy next door from back home when he arrived with the first batch of Canadian Air Force."

"And you know, there was a wedding over here a couple of weeks ago that sums the women's war effort up pretty well. The bride had a dress made with special lace cuffs to drape over her hands. Why? Because her hands were so scarred with war work she didn't want them to be seen when the ring was slipped on."

(Marjorie Hird in BBC Talk.)



## UNIVERSITY LECTURES

The new fall and winter series of University Lectures will be heard again on CKY and CKX, commencing Monday, October 5th. The broadcasts are scheduled at 4:15 P.M., Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays.



## CKY PROGRAMMES

Radio programmes are subject to change without notice. The following items are listed as a guide to some of the most popular features. For more details see Winnipeg daily newspapers. Daily programmes are shown in heavy type. Those marked \* run on weekdays. Those marked † are on weekdays except Saturdays. All times Central Daylight.

### SUNDAY

- 9.00—CBC News—CBC.
- 9.45—Neighborhood News—CBC.
- 11.00—Church Service.
- 12.25—News.
- 12.30—Joseph Mar. in African Trek—CBC.
- 1.00—CBC News and Old Country Mail—CBC
- 1.15—Anzac News Letter—CBC.
- 1.30—Religious Period—CBC.
- 2.00—Columbia Symphony Orchestra—CBC.
- 3.30—Church of the Air—CBC.
- 4.00—CBC News—CBC.
- 4.30—Marie Carpot—CBC.
- 5.00—Lipton Tea Musicale—CBC—Lipton Tea Co.
- 5.30—Behind the Headlines.
- 5.45—BBC News—CBC.
- 6.00—Jack Benny—CBC—Gen. Foods Corp.
- 6.30—Nazi Eyes on Canada—CBC.
- 7.00—Church Service.
- 8.30—American Album—CBC—Bayer Aspirin.
- 10.30—The Wishing Well.

### MONDAY

- \* 7.00—Reveille—News.
- † 7.05—Eveready Time—Can. Nat. Carbon Co.
- \* 7.30—News.
- \* 8.00—CBC News—CBC.
- \* 8.05—Wake Up and Live—Tom Benson.
- † 10.00—Road of Life—CBC—Chipso.
- † 10.30—Soldier's Wife—CBC—W.P.T.B.
- † 10.45—Lucy Linton—CBC—Sunlight Soap.
- \* 11.00—BBC News—CBC.
- † 11.15—Big Sister—CBC—Rinso.
- † 12.15—The Happy Gang—CBC—Col.-Palmolive
- † 12.45—They Tell Me—Dept. of Finance—CBC.
- \* 1.00—News and Messages.
- † 2.00—Story of Mary Marlin—CBC—Ivory.
- † 2.15—Ma Perkins—CBC—Oxydol.
- † 2.30—Pepper Young's Family—CBC—Camay.
- † 2.45—Mid-day Matinee—CBC.
- † 3.00—Right to Happiness—CBC—P. & G. Soap.
- † 3.15—CBC News—CBC.
- † 3.30—CBS School of the Air—CBC.
- † 4.00—Front Line Family—CBC.
- 4.15—University Lecture.
- 5.00—Meet Me at 5.00 p.m.
- \* 5.30—News.
- 5.45—Durham War Stamp Prog.—Bee Hive.
- † 6.00—Amos 'n' Andy—Campbell Soup.
- 6.15—Easy Aces—Anacin Co.
- † 6.30—CBC News.
- 6.45—Lum and Abner—Alka Seltzer.
- 8.00—Lux Radio Theatre—CBC—Lever Bros.
- 9.00—News—CBC.
- 9.15—Canadian Round-Up—CBC.
- 10.00—BBC Newsreel.
- 10.30—Impressions by Green—CBC.
- 11.30—News—Time and Sign Off.

### TUESDAY

- 9.15—Peggy's Point of View.
- 9.45—The Voice of Inspiration.

- 1.45—Carnation Bouquet—Carnation Milk.
- 3.30—B.C. Schools Broadcast—CBC.
- 4.15—University Lecture.
- 6.45—Lum and Abner—Alka Seltzer.
- 7.30—Variety Show—CBC—Tuckett's Ltd.
- 8.00—John and Judy—CBC—Lamont Corless
- 8.30—Fibber McGee and Molly—CBC—S.C. Johnson & Sons.
- 9.15—Treasure Trail—CBC—Wm. Wrigley.
- 10.15—Britain Speaks—CBC.

### WEDNESDAY

- 11.45—Breakfast at Sardi's—CBC.
- 2.45—Mid-day Matinee—CBC.
- 3.30—CKY Studio Strings—M.T.S.
- 4.15—University Lecture.
- 5.00—Meet Me at 5.00 p.m.
- 5.45—Durham War Stamp Prog.—Bee Hive.
- 6.15—Easy Aces—Anacin Co.
- 9.15—Baker's Dozen—CBC.
- 10.30—The Choristers.
- 11.00—Badge of Honour—City Hydro.

### THURSDAY

- 9.15—Peggy's Point of View.
- 9.45—The Voice of Inspiration.
- 11.45—The King's Men—Genser and Sons.
- 1.45—Carnation Bouquet—Carnation Milk.
- 3.30—CBC Schools Broadcast—CBC.
- 4.15—University Lecture.
- 6.45—Lum and Abner—Alka Seltzer.
- 7.30—The Aldrich Family—CBC—Gen. Foods
- 8.00—Kraft Music Hall—CBC—Kraft Cheese.
- 9.15—Promenade Symphony Concerts—CBC.

### FRIDAY

- 11.45—Breakfast at Sardi's—CBC.
- 3.30—Nat. Schools Broadcast—CBC.
- 5.00—Meet Me at 5.00 p.m.
- 5.45—Durham War Stamp Prog.—Bee Hive.
- 6.15—Easy Aces—Anacin Co.
- 6.45—Lum and Abner—Alka Seltzer.
- 7.05—Variety—CBC.
- 7.30—Penny's Diary—CBC—Col.-Palmolive.
- 8.00—Waltz Time—CBC—Sterling Products.
- 8.30—Can. Theatre—CBC—Ironized Yeast.
- 9.15—Comrades in Arms—CBC.

### SATURDAY

- 9.00—CBC News.
- 9.15—Peggy's Point of View.
- 9.45—Morning Devotions—CBC.
- 10.30—Good Deed Club—T. Eaton Co.
- 1.15—Symphonic Hour—CBC.
- 3.00—CKY Studio Strings—M.T.S.
- 4.00—Gentlemen with Wings—CBC.
- 5.00—Wings Abroad—CBC.
- 6.00—Letters from Britain—CBC.
- 7.00—Canadian Calendar—CBC.
- 7.30—Share the Wealth—CBC—Col.Palmolive
- 8.00—Classics for Today—CBC.
- 9.30—Stag Party—CBC.



## Care of Your Radio

Several leading radio-set manufacturers, now engaged in production of essential war materials, have issued instructions on the care of radio receivers. Because of the increasing difficulty in replacing a worn-out receiver during war time, the following suggestions are offered to help you make your present model last:—

1. Keep your radio at least an inch away from the wall to allow free circulation of air, thus preventing overheating.
2. Check connecting wires and plugs to make sure connections are snug. (This applies to all your electrical appliances.)
3. Be sure all electric bulbs are properly twisted into their sockets. Loose connections will cause static and noise in your radio.
4. Check the aerial and ground wires to make certain they are secure, and not rubbing against trees, other wires, etc.
5. Use a lightning arrestor with an outside aerial. Even small static discharges may cause damage in your set.
6. Use a vacuum cleaner periodically to clean the dust from your set. Make certain, too, that the tubes are fitted firmly in their sockets.
7. Noisy reception may be caused by a poor ground connection. A water or steam pipe makes a good "ground".
8. If your set is in need of repair, make certain your repair-man knows his job. If he insists on taking your set to his shop to make repairs, ask him beforehand for an estimate of cost of repairs.
9. Owners of battery-operated radios can conserve battery life by keeping all terminals clean and tight; giving dry batteries frequent rest periods, and by making sure the set is turned-off when not in use.



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